

# COLMAN'S



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## Sorgo Department.

*The Rural World is the only journal in the United States having a special department devoted to syrup and sugar making from sorgo.*

Harper County, Kansas, Sugar.

MR. I. A. HEDGES: As regards our work by the Harper County Sugar Company—the aggregate result of work done is not what it should have been. The total amount of syrup made will not exceed ten thousand gallons. This includes that manufactured for sugar, which was about fifteen hundred gallons. This is still on hand, mostly, the granulation not yet being completed, though it shows a fine proportion of sugar. There are at least seven or eight thousand pounds of sugar in the melado, and more coming. We have swung out about five hundred pounds—enough to test the character and quality. It sold readily as the first production of sugar in Harper County, Kansas, for fifteen cents per pound. It will all sell readily at ten cents a pound at the factory.

The syrup has found a ready sale thus far at 50 cents per gallon. Much of it is going to the cattle camps, south and west of here, and a quick sale is made for home consumption. The company have been hindered in their work this year by delaying their preparation for work more than a month after the work should have begun—by a very limited supply of water, by imperfect heating arrangements, and insufficient supply of fuel, by storms, &c. They have gained very much practical experience which will enable them another season to begin in season, and make the most of their knowledge, by providing in time for their wants thus insuring their full success. The future of sugar production in this section is fully assured.

R. J. WILCOX.

Harper County, Kansas, Nov. 7.

### Cane Culture in Wisconsin.

MR. I. A. HEDGES: I send you by express a sample of syrup, made from the Early Amber cane. I had a little practice from '65 to '72, but since then none till last year. I never used lime until this season, and like Mr. Kenney, I am so well pleased with its use that I never intend to make another gallon without it.

I lime my juice cold, using two tanks for the purpose. I use two pans, one 17 feet long, 44 inches wide, the other 15 feet long. The 17 foot pan is divided into three apartments, the two next to smoke-stack are plain with gates; balance of pan arranged same as the Cook, with channels 16 inches wide. I run the cold juice into the part next to smoke-stack, skim about once in ten or twelve hours. The next apartment is kept hotter, but not allowed to boil. Here we skim about once in three or four hours. As the juice passes the second gate it enters the third apartment where it is kept boiling rapidly for a while and passed by a continuous flow into settling tanks (I use two). When one is filled, we commence to draw from the top through your swing pipe into evaporator, where it is finished by rapid boiling. We averaged sixteen gallons per hour under difficult circumstances—it being a very wet fall. We made 2,300 gallons. Juice tested from 7 to 10% B. The sample is a fair average of what we made in September. It was drawn from a barrel.

Cane was injured badly here by the grub worm, then August, September and October were very wet. The season was not a favorable one.

I take seven or eight papers, but the RURAL WORLD is worth more to me than all the rest. I believe the children like it better than any other.

Please report by letter or through the RURAL WORLD and oblige.

W. FRAZIER.

MR. HEDGES' REPLY: The syrup is received and is a close match for the best that has come to hand, and would probably polarize higher. It is full of fine grain sugar that is already precipitating, which fact proves its purity from glucose or inverted sugar. You have only to closely adhere to your method of working, as well as giving careful attention to the selection of seed and proper culture, to establish for yourself a business that will, like Messrs. Bozarth, Kenney, Schwarze, and others, give you a demand for your syrup and sugar, too (as all such boilings will make sugar), that will pay you three times the net profits of a wheat or corn crop. I shall have occasion to refer to your sample, and will place it in a warm place and note its crystallizing results.

I have just returned from a call on our able scientists, Prof. Scovill & Weber, of the Illinois Industrial University, where I was much gratified in examining the results of their sugar making.

and one of the most prominent of the results is in the practical effect in a business way, viz.: in inspiring that confidence among the business men and capitalists who have organized a stock company of \$50,000, and are now receiving bids for a works of capacity to take off 1,000 acres of cane in 60 to 70 days' run. This looks like business.

### Letter from Miller County, Mo.

COL. COLMAN: Last week we gathered the last peaches of the season, a succession of which we have enjoyed since July. The size and quality of the fruit has been equal to any that I saw while on a recent trip through the St. Louis market.

The late warm rains have done much to help out our short corn crop, by producing the finest growth of grass on the range that I have ever seen at this season of the year. Stock of all kinds are thriving more rapidly now than at any time since June.

The advanced growth of wheat (it is a common practice here to graze wheat in the winter), rye and meadows, I think, will send us through the winter all right. The 3rd inst., brought our first and only frost, which was not sufficient to kill tomato vines. I have seen within the past week, sarsaparilla, and red bud trees in full bloom, and as many beautiful flowers blooming in the woods.

The recent sudden rise in the Osage river, caused the loss of several thousands of dollars worth of railroad ties. It has also renewed our communication with St. Louis, by steamboat, affording us much cheaper freight than by rail.

Game has been very plentiful this season. The music of the horn, and hounds is frequently heard, and an occasional buck brought in.

I wish the future of all the RURAL WORLD readers may be as bright as this beautiful weather.

H. C. JACKSON.  
Miller County, Mo., November 5th.

### Letter From Hon. Seth H. Kenney.

FRIEND HEDGES: I send you sample of syrup drawn from a 2,000 gallon tank. This sample represents the tank, and there are four tanks with but little difference. It is eagerly sought after, as I have been offered 50 cents per gallon by one man for all I have. The other sample is some that I put up in barrels—thought it little nicer than the syrup in the tanks. The juice only tested 7 by saccharometer. You will recollect I bought a No. 5 Niles and No. 7½ Cook. With juice at 7° I made 450 gallons, each twenty-four hours for one week. This would be nearly nineteen gallons per hour on an average for one week. You are so well posted in this business you will understand if the juice tested as high as in years past, 10°, I could have added one-third to each day, with no more labor or expense. Some have claimed there were better evaporators than the Cook for an open fire pan. The goods speak for themselves. I made 14,200 gallons and have sold 2,500 gallons. I rolled 1,044 tons for above product, average ten tons per acre, making 104 acres. The weather was rainy through September and October, and is to day still raining. I think the rains have washed out much of the saccharine from the cane, as the last lot tested only 3°. The first rolled produced several barrels of sugar in the tank; by which I am convinced early working for sugar was best this season. You will recollect I planted and raised forty-five acres, and bought the rest at \$2.50 per ton. That with leaves I took 2,200 pounds for one ton. The wet weather was not favorable for cane with leaves on, but the cane I bought, much of it, was stripped. The hauling cost about 22 cents per ton from one-fourth to one-half mile. One man cut the tops for three teams. Not many men could do as well. The cane was so well piled it did not wet in much. You will see that this cane cost so little to get it ready for the mill, that the profit on my own crop was good, and although the season was bad, I made a handsome sum calling the syrup 50 cents, but I expect more than that for much of it.

Your idea about young men learning the business is a good one. My brother that has worked with me for years received this year \$4.50 per day in Wisconsin, to superintend the boiling of a large works, and the party made money by securing a skillful hand. Rightly conducted it is a very remunerative business.

Please write me your opinion of the samples. I think I can still improve in a favorable season. Much of the time the fuel was in bad condition.

SETH H. KENNEY.

### Cane in Northern Ohio.

MR. I. A. HEDGES: I received some Orange cane seed from you last spring, and have now finished working for the season, which has been merely preparatory to business in the future. I worked wholly by steam, using a Madison Wisconsin crusher; steam coil, pans my own make. I made about 2,000 gallons syrup and 400 gallons apple jelly. Fruit very scarce this year. Amber cane ripens well here, and of good quality. Orange was not as good yield in syrup, just three-fourths as much as same quantity of Amber juice. Is this characteristic of the Orange, or other conditions? However, my Orange syrup was thick with sugar grain before it got cold. I had no cooler this year, consequently syrup is darker in color. I used lime moderately, and made syrup of good flavor, nearly all for customers. I expect to have 150 acres another year to work. I shall only work for a good quality of syrup. Making sugar at present is reaching too far.

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SETH H. KENNEY.

localities corresponded well in color, and only the smell was different from that just described.

H. F. D. DAGANHARDT.

**Amber Cane for Fodder.**  
Eastern papers contain glowing accounts of the value of Amber cane for food for stock in summer or winter. Several who have experimented with it declare that it is more nutritious than corn fodder, and that cattle eat it better. The young and tender stalks will be eaten readily by calves and pigs, and the more matured stalks by stock that usually eat hay and straw. It is claimed that it is easier to cure than corn fodder, and that it can be preserved much better. It contains less pith, and the outer skin is thinner. It is sweeter than sugar corn, and is preferred by stock. The amount of seed required is very small, and it is easier planted than corn. It may be planted like corn, in hills, and cultivated both ways, or raised in hills and tended with harrow and plow. The largest crops are raised by planting the seed in drills, and this method is recommended when the land is quite clean. Some farmers state that they have raised three crops of fodder from the same planting this season. The first crop was cut as soon as the seed had filled out. Snackers then appeared about the butt of the stalks, which were cut and cured early in the fall. After the fall rains more sprouts appeared, which were eaten by stock without cutting. Northern sugar cane stands the drought better than almost any crop we can raise, and it furnishes a large amount of fodder at the time when the drought is most severe. If the accounts given by the eastern farmers are not overdrawn, Amber cane will take its place among our most valuable fodder crops. It will be very valuable for dairymen, as it will be in its prime when grass is the scarcest. It will also be a desirable crop to raise on the western plains.—Chicago Times.

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### Food Production in Great Britain.

Our eastern contemporary, the Produce Exchange Bulletin of New York City, usually correct in its diagnosis of food markets, both present and prospective, has fallen into an error in its last issue of date November 15. It discusses a paper recently presented to the British Association by a Mr. Avon, on the subject of corn and cattle. The main purpose of the article seems to be to refute the proposition of an American writer, which in effect states that the British Isles are incapable of raising food sufficient for the needs of the inhabitants. Our contemporary takes the figures of Mr. Avon as to the productive acreage of Great Britain and the estimated productive capacity, and undertakes to show that needed supplies can be produced there.

Hypothetically Mr. Avon and the Bulletin are correct, but hypothesis does not meet fact. It is a repetition of the old story of the dog who would have caught the rabbit if he had not stopped.

In the condition of both the landed and manufacturing interests of the British Islands, it is not possible that land will be devoted to the cultivation of food products, including fruits and stock, to supply the vast horde that subsists chiefly upon the profits of manufacturing industries.

Improved legislation may be projected, reforms intended to meet the wants of the laboring classes by increased food production at home may be planned, but the old tendencies will continue. The rich will absorb the landed properties to be used for their pleasure, rather than to swell crops upon which they are not dependent, and food supplies must continue to be drawn from the regions where they can be cheaply produced. Any other result involves a revolution at home, and a change of trade relations abroad, neither of which lie in the near future.

Great Britain will continue to lay claim to the world to pay for her manufactures and will continue to take in exchange the food products which she needs and which it is not necessary for her to raise.

Such articles and arguments as those of the Bulletin, belong to the bear side of transactions, and are intended to pull down the prices, to which grain and stock raisers in the west are entitled, as fair remuneration for honest labor. Let the Bulletin not deceive itself. We must either feed the people of Great Britain at home, with our flour, beef and pork, or else we must bring their redundant manufacturing populations to this country to be fed here.

**Laws on the Subject of "Board of Agriculture" and "The Representatives of Agricultural Societies."**

ED RURAL WORLD: In the annual report for 1874, of the State Board of Agriculture, we find quoted from G. S. ch. 159, §6-6, the following: "There shall be held in the city of St. Louis, on the first Wednesday of December of each year, an annual meeting of the Board of Agriculture, together with the president of each county agricultural association, to be held in Minneapolis in January, Ex-Gov. Colman, I. A. Hedges, Mr. Belcher, the great sugar refiner, Mr. Schwartz of Illinois, Mr. John B. Thomas of Chicago, probably Gen. Le Due and others, will be present. The experience of another year at the Faribault refinery through the perseverance of Capt. Blakeley and other growers makes this coming meeting one of great promise. I saw your notice of the Early Orange cane in the Pioneer Press. I raised three acres of it also. I would like to send you some of my Amber syrup, and let Mr. Harris send some of his Early Orange, and let you report through the Pioneer Press as to which had the more value. Will Mr. Harris make a note of this and let the "fittest survive?"

The above is a part of the old law. Now on page 4 of the same annual report, §3-3, we find that the Board was to be increased to twelve members, &c.

Now to show how the law was then understood and to ascertain what suffrage the representatives of agricultural societies had, as the Board proper and they themselves interpreted the law, we turn to the minutes as contained in the report of 1874.

On page 13 of said report we find that the twelve corporate members were all present, also the Governor, an ex-officio member; while the State superintendent of schools, another ex-officio member, was absent.

On page 16 we find that Mr. Brown, of the committee on credentials, reported five gentlemen present duly authorized to represent Agricultural Societies.

Now to see who voted and for what, turn to page 24 of the report for 1874. There we see in the balloting to fill vacancies in the Board, the vote runs 17, 15, 17, 14, 16; showing that the representatives of Agricultural Societies voted in a single instance for officers of the Board. Indeed at this session of the Board the minutes say nothing of these representatives, and the supposition is that they were not even present.

This, then, was the status of things under the old law: these representatives of Agricultural Societies participated in the deliberations of the Board and voted to fill all vacancies in the Board corporate; but did not and were not empowered to vote in the election of officers of the Board.

Now, what is the present law? First, who constitute the Board? In the report of the Board for 1879, page 5, §404, we have this: "The persons named as corporators of the Missouri State Board of Agriculture theretofore existing, are hereby constituted the members of the Missouri State Board of Agriculture, &c., &c."

Sec. 404. The Governor, the State Superintendent of Public Schools, the President of the State University and the Dean of the Agricultural College, shall be ex-officio members of the State Board of Agriculture, and the Governor shall appoint practical farmers to fill all vacancies as they occur in the corporate members of said Board of Agriculture.

This last clause is an amendment to the old law; by which old law the Board filled all vacancies by election. This amendment also takes away from the representatives of Agricultural Societies the only suffrage which they had under the old law; for under the old law they voted with the corporate members in filling all vacancies in the membership of the Board; while under the present law, the Governor fills these vacancies by appointment.

But does the new law empower these representatives of Agricultural Societies to vote in the election of the officers of the Board? It does not, as will be seen from section 4047 on page 6 of the report of the Board for 1879. This section is worded just as the corresponding section of the old law (chap. 142, sec. 6-6, which I have quoted above) except that the place of the annual meeting shall not be St. Louis but the Agricultural College Building in Columbia and the time November instead of December. This section retains the old clause about voting to fill all vacancies in the Board; which shows that this was an oversight on the part of the Legislature, since by section 4044 of the new law, the Governor is empowered to fill all vacancies.

Now, then, what is the state of the case? Why, simply this: 1st, that under the old law the representatives of agricultural societies were not empowered to vote for officers of the Board, and never did, and never claimed that privilege. 2nd, that the only change in the laws which affects them is that which takes away from them the only suff

## Farmers' Societies.

[This Department will contain articles designed to advance the interests of the Grange, the Farmers' Alliance, the Farmers' Congress and the Anti-Monopoly Organizations.]

**Rolla State Grange Resolutions.**  
The Missouri State Grange, at its session at Rolla, unanimously adopted the following:

Whereas, COLMAN'S RURAL WORLD was one of the first papers in Missouri to espouse the grange cause, and to urge the farmers of the State to organize themselves into granges; and

Whereas, It has ever been the faithful, earnest and consistent friend of the grange and of the agricultural classes of the State, assiduously laboring to advance every agricultural interest and to elevate the profession of agriculture to a higher standard; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Missouri State Grange cordially indorses COLMAN'S RURAL WORLD and recommends it to the support of the Patrons of Husbandry of the State of Missouri.

**Grange Meetings in Lafayette County.**

COL. COLMAN: Please announce through the columns of the RURAL WORLD, that Worthy Master Eshbaugh will address the farmers of Lafayette county, at the following times and places, to-wit:

Corder, on Saturday, Dec. 17, 1881, at 1 and 7 o'clock, p.m.

Prairie Church, on Monday, Dec. 19, at 1 and 7 o'clock, p.m.

Wellington, on Tuesday, Dec. 20, at 1 and 7 o'clock, p.m.

Walnut Grove School House, near Odessa, Wednesday, Dec. 21, at 1 and 7 o'clock, p.m. By order County Grange.

C. C. CATRON, Master.

### Meeting of Patrons.

We, the undersigned, Patrons of Lafayette County, Mo., fully convinced that the time has come when the grange organization should pass from mere expressions of glittering generalities and professions of harmless moralities to active operations, in order that it may demonstrate by facts the need of the existence of the grange, and the possibilities within its reach, call upon our Bro. Patrons of twelve or more adjacent counties to unite with us and contribute to accomplish the following objects, viz:

1st. To put in the field an efficient lecturer to revive and reorganize dormant Granges.

2d. To organize in each county a Mutual Fire Insurance Company, which has been a complete success in our county.

3d. To direct the attention of Patrons and Farmers to the true principles of co-operation, and especially to the Rochdale plan, which has proven so successful in our neighboring state of Kansas, at Olathe.

4th. To foster a common understanding in all other matters public and corporate affecting the welfare of agriculture.

5th. To the end that we may come to a speedy understanding, we do hereby call upon the Masters of Co. Granges or other representatives, of adjacent counties to meet with us at the office of Secretary A. M. Coffey at Knobister, Johnson county, Mo., on Tuesday the 27th day of December, 1881. All papers in adjoining counties favorable to agriculture will please copy. C. C. CATRON, Master County Grange, and many others.

### Government Control of Railways.

The subjoined extract on this topic shows—as intimated in my last article—that official notice has been taken of the fact of pooling and extortion by railroad companies. State laws can and do control railroad charges within their limits; but at their respective State lines the authority ceases, and interstate commerce is and must be regulated by the national government. And when in their over-weaning ambition and greed the railroad companies over-reach themselves, and when they consider the pockets and rights of the people as their lawful prey, the people through their chosen representatives will demand that the roads shall be managed by the government, always allowing a fair and just compensation for the use of the capital invested by the railroad companies. It is surprising that such shrewd business men as these managers, who doubtless read and are apprised of the facts as given below, will still ignore their existence and go right along as if this round world and the inhabitants thereof were created for their own special accommodation, pleasure and profit. Time will tell.

C. W. M.

**WASHINGTON, November 1.**—The report of Mr. Joseph Nimm, Jr., Chief of the Bureau of Statistics, relating to the railroad problem, and devoted particularly to the cost of transportation, confederations, or pooling arrangements and governmental regulations of railroads has been issued to the public.

Regarding restraints placed upon railroads by the government, Mr. Nimm says: "Few, and for the most part ineffectual, governmental restraints of a positive nature have been interposed in this country to the exclusive determination of freight charges by railroad officials. Freight charges are largely influenced by public sentiment, and by that comity which always prevails to a greater or less extent between the merchant and the transporter. But in the matter of railroad transportation, as in all other affairs affecting human interests, cupidity is sometimes stronger than that sense of right and justice which inclines men to the observance of reciprocal rights. The current history of railroad transportation in this country clearly indicates that there are evils connected with it which call for a public remedy; evils which affect not only the commercial and industrial interests of the country, but which also affect the railroads. Hence arises the demand for some sort of governmental intervention, either through the enforcement of specific provisions of law, or through the moral influence exerted by a well-grounded apprehension of such intervention, as a result of the scrutiny exercised by intelligent and faithful boards of railroad commissioners. As the authority of the State governments is circumscribed by State lines, State jurisdiction seems to be inadequate to dealing with the subject in its applica-

tion to the great commercial movements of the country across State lines. The first practical step toward the settlement of this important question appears to be an intelligent investigation of it in all its bearings. The attention of this office is mainly directed toward the commercial and industrial aspects of the subject. The political or constitutional questions involved are especially subjects for the consideration of the national Congress. A better understanding of the relation of transportation to the public interests will undoubtedly tend to lead railroad managers to avoid causes of complaint, and, besides, lead the people generally to more correct views as to the relations of the railroads to the commercial and industrial interests of the country.

It is a source of encouragement that at the present time, intelligent and fair-minded men who differ widely as to the nature and extent of the controlling and restraining influence which should be exercised by State and National governments agree that there should be no unfair discriminations in rates either with respect to persons or to localities; that rates should be open and equal to all under like conditions; and also that any governmental regulations which may be established shall be both protective of the public interests and just to the proprietors of railroads."—New York Times.

### From Cape Girardeau County Mo.

COL. COLMAN: Why is it I hardly ever see anything from Cape Girardeau county, in the RURAL WORLD? I know that there is persons who can write for the press, especially on agriculture. I live near what is called Fruitland. Fruitland Grange is getting along well. We have built a new hall. We are meeting in our new hall now. On the 29th of October, the District Grange met at Fruitland Grange Hall. Fruitland Grange gave an entertainment which was considered a success by the clodhoppers—what the farmers are sometimes called. There was a large gathering at both the entertainment and the District Grange. The members of Fruitland are getting more and more interested in the good work of the grange. There are one or two members who have been Patrons for six or seven years, and have not missed a half dozen meetings. The grange meets twice every month with a good attendance, begins work promptly at the hour, and sometimes fails to get through with business and discussions in time to get home before night. At the next meeting there will be an election of officers, for the year 1882.

The next meeting of the District Grange meets with Oak Ridge Grange, on the fifth Saturday in December. The Patrons throughout the country expect a good time. I understand they talk of giving an entertainment; provided Fruitland will assist, which they will do, as I know that they never fail to help in anything there is no harm in. The RURAL WORLD is taken by a number of our grange and is very well liked. The lecturer of our grange was the first to try making molasses from sorghum, without taking the leaves off. It worked well. So he reported it to the grange. He says he got the idea in the RURAL WORLD. D. M. W.

Cape Girardeau Co., Mo.

### Another Tribute of Recognition.

A prominent western journal that only of late has shown a warm side for the fact of pooling and extortion by railroad companies. State laws can and do control railroad charges within their limits; but at their respective State lines the authority ceases, and interstate commerce is and must be regulated by the national government. And when in their over-weaning ambition and greed the railroad companies over-reach themselves, and when they consider the pockets and rights of the people as their lawful prey, the people through their chosen representatives will demand that the roads shall be managed by the government, always allowing a fair and just compensation for the use of the capital invested by the railroad companies. It is surprising that such shrewd business men as these managers, who doubtless read and are apprised of the facts as given below, will still ignore their existence and go right along as if this round world and the inhabitants thereof were created for their own special accommodation, pleasure and profit. Time will tell.

It is an indisputable fact that farming is carried on most intelligently and consequently most profitably in localities where the Grange has been most popular and permanent. When we speak of profitable farming we do not mean simply that farmers have made the most money, but that they are men of broader ideas, of better thinking powers, better educational attainments, higher social relations, and, hence, in all respects better qualified to take part and position in the discussion and management of political, financial and social questions of the day. No class of men is more affected by these questions, and hence, none more interested in mastering the principles underlying them. After all it is mind that rules. It is a false idea that capital does it. Money is in the foreground, but back of it, in our transportation, manufacturing, tariff, and all other monopolies, welding it with consummate skill for selfish ends, are shrewd intellects cultured in all the schools and professions, leading, controlling and manipulating masses of weaker and totally unorganized men. It is only through knowledge and organization that this overshadowing monopoly question can be met. It was nobly begun 15 years ago by imperfect and fitful farmers' organizations in the west, and greatly aided by the most widespread and, probably, best planned organization yet effected, the Grange, as early as 1870. A great victory was won. The right of the people, through State and National legislation, to control railroads, was forever established by decisions of the highest courts. The trouble is, the people having their rights established, have not properly asserted them. They never can, without better intelligence and better organization. In this development the Grange will find the field of greatest future usefulness.

A distinguished writer says: "I believe operation can place an effectual check upon monopoly; that it can render poverty unnecessary; that it is an educator in the best methods for applying moral rules to business affairs; that it is a practical teacher of corrective action; that it is the best means for causing the mass of people to understand business processes, their duties and responsibilities toward each other, their rights and powers as citizens of the state. The next step of progress for America is in the propagation of the principle of co-operation.

Strength of resolution is in itself dominion and ability, and there is a seed of sovereignty in the barrenness of unfinishing determination. Unselfish and noble acts are the most radiant sparks in the biography of souls. When wrought in earliest youth they lie in the memory of age like the coral islands, green and sunny amid the melancholy waste of ocean.

### How to Oppose Monopolies.

The monopolies which chiefly concern the people at large, says the Kansas Farmer, are those which affect common interests and reach all of us more or less directly. Some of them exist by mere private combinations, as in the case of grain gamblers; some of them come into being directly through the affirmative power of the people, as railroads, banks, express companies, etc. For our present purpose, then, monopolies may be divided into private and public, as they are created through private or public machinery. Any one man, or half a dozen or more men may deal in grain and stocks without asking anybody's consent, and we style them private monopolists; but no man or body of men may build a railroad, establish a bank of circulation or even organize a company for such purposes, except in pursuance of laws which the people have made. We therefore call a railway company or a bank a public monopoly. In this article, we propose to deal with this latter class only. The fact that they are creatures of law shows that all the rights they have come to them from the people, and are either expressed or implied in the law under which they are permitted to exist. They are creatures of law, offspring of the people. The two parties to the enterprise are, the people of the first part, and the corporation of the second part. The people are sovereign; the corporation is limited to the grants of the people.

It is a source of encouragement that at the present time, intelligent and fair-minded men who differ widely as to the nature and extent of the controlling and restraining influence which should be exercised by State and National governments agree that there should be no unfair discriminations in rates either with respect to persons or to localities; that rates should be open and equal to all under like conditions; and also that any governmental regulations which may be established shall be both protective of the public interests and just to the proprietors of railroads."—New York Times.

The primary object of every public monopoly is the convenience and benefit of the people. When citizens are compelled to transport their produce and supplies a hundred miles in wagons, when farmers must haul their grain fifty miles to mill; when carpenters and blacksmiths must have teams out a week to procure lumber and iron for their shops—then the people begin to realize the importance of cheaper and more speedy means of transporting freight, and a railroad is built. Before the road is made, the rates of compensation for hauling freight are established by persons engaged in the business. Competition preserves an equitable schedule. When the railway is built, then there is no competition, and the very natural result is, that another rule of compensation is adopted. With the individual freighters the rule was, the lowest living rates; with the corporation it is, all the traffic will bear. And it is this matter of rates which affects the people.

Now, there is a law which the people have either adopted or enacted, fixing this whole subject, but the difficulty in the way is, that things are now, the corporation acts as judge and sheriff both, while the people, who alone have the right to determine the matter, and who have determined it long years ago, sit back of the railing as spectators.

The law to which reference is here made is known to every lawyer as the rule of quantum meruit; that is to say—what, or how much is the service reasonably worth? In other words, the law is, a fair compensation for services rendered, and no more than that can be collected unless there is a contract for more.

But while the law remains in its present general form the corporation naturally, not maliciously, bases its rates on the rule above mentioned—all the traffic will bear—trusting for immunity to the apathy or ignorance of the people. And this brings us face to face with the query—how to oppose railway monopolies.

Make the law specific. Let the whole great subject be studied by persons specially fitted and specially appointed for the purpose. Let these persons have all the time and all the money they need to make this investigation thorough, because the subject is large, and it covers a vast field. Construction of a railway has many incidental operations; managing a railway has many more. Rates of compensation, to be based on the rule of quantum meruit, can be fairly established only after a full knowledge of all the facts and circumstances which necessarily enter into the sum total of reasonable expenses. The various items thus necessary to be considered are almost innumerable, besides, there are many things which cannot be certainly known at any time of making estimates, as floods, fires, accidents, future cost of materials, extensions, etc. Such things can be provided for only on reasonable margins, utilizing the fruits of experience in those directions. Let a complete report of such investigation be prepared for presentation to the legislature. Then let the people see to it that men of sense, and honor are elected to seats in the law making body. Don't send up wooden men nor fools; but men who have brains enough to comprehend the subject; conscience enough to be fair; honor enough to give their time and talents to the people. The street corner, saloon or store-box politician won't do at all. He is a nuisance and a fraud anywhere. The lawyer who practices his profession on one book and talks on opposite sides of one plain proposition as often as anybody will pay him two dollars and a half—he won't do; he would sell his soul for a nickel cigar. Yet such fellows' votes count as much as anybody's.

It is an indisputable fact that farming is carried on most intelligently and consequently most profitably in localities where the Grange has been most popular and permanent. When we speak of profitable farming we do not mean simply that farmers have made the most money, but that they are men of broader ideas, of better thinking powers, better educational attainments, higher social relations, and, hence, in all respects better qualified to take part and position in the discussion and management of political, financial and social questions of the day. No class of men is more affected by these questions, and hence, none more interested in mastering the principles underlying them. After all it is mind that rules. It is a false idea that capital does it.

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IN MANY HOMES.

For Coughs, Colds, Croup, Bronchitis and all other affections of the Throat and Lungs, it cures unrivaled and utterly beyond competition.

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## Horticultural.

### THE MISSION OF HORTICULTURE.

AN ESSAY BY CHAS. W. MURTFIELD OF KIRKWOOD, MO.

"This is an art which does mend nature," so reads the legend on the seal of the Illinois State Horticultural Society. The question arises, does nature need mending? What is wrong that man can better? What is lacking that man can supply? Is not the wisdom of the Allwise sufficient to make everything complete? Does not the Good Book tell us that He looked upon the work of creation, and saw that it was very good? I well know that there are men, not a few, who think they could have given the Creator some hints, which, if followed, would have made many things much better. I am happy to state that very few of these have found their way into State horticultural societies; and that those that think everything comes by chance, are still less in number. It is a happy thing for mankind that those wiseacres, first alluded to, were not taken into counsel when the world was made, or else it might have turned out that their wisdom was very much like the fabled horse of *Æsop*. This horse came to Jupiter, the father of the gods of heathen mythology, and suggested that it would have been much better for man and horse, if the saddle, which benevolent man put upon his back, had grown there; also that instead of his hard hoofs, which do so jar the rider, there had been cushions placed under his feet. Jupiter gave Bucephalus an object lesson and created the camel, which, when the horse saw, it departed at a dead run, and he has not been known to make any more suggestions to Jupiter.

What then do the Illinois horticulturists mean by adopting such a legend? Not being present when it was suggested, nor hearing any argument, *pro* or *con*, nor yet knowing whether it be some poetic quotation, I will see (and perhaps you will also) whether there be any truth at the bottom of this well, or if the poetic effusion be only mythical.

The horticulturists bestow much thought upon flowers, these being first in the order of nature, appealing strongly to two of our senses, viz. sight and smell. Nature (only in this case another name for God) scattered these beauties here and there. The same soil, which produces the blue violet, will produce the red rose, the brown and yellow, or the silver and gold, if you prefer, of the tulip; or the lily of the valley with its waxen petal bells, or the japonica with the fiery petals—only the violet and the lily of the valley need more moisture than the tulip, or the rose, or the japonica. Now the horticulturist having studied the conditions of the natural habitat of the flowers, found isolated here and there, groups them together in his yards in a manner pleasing to his fancy, or with the design of forming strong contrasts, or artistic shading of colors.

Again he notices that by transplanting the flowering plants frequently, or adding different materials to his soil—charcoal, for instance—he can double the number of petals, or heighten the colors. Does he thus mend nature? Take the insignificant fuchsia of forty years ago, for instance, and see how art has mended nature, in colors and shape. Behold the great variety of colors and beauty of the tulip! Look upon the few blush petals of the wild or native rose, and then contemplate the exceeding richness and deep crimson of the "Giant of Battles," the "Gen. Jacqueminot!" Look upon the dwarf "Burgundy," and then upon the "Baron Prevost" of the "Belle of Baltimore," or "Queen of the Prairie!" Let me present the "White Daily" and the yellow "Marshal Ney!"

All these vary in color and structure of plant or flower. These examples might be multiplied by hundreds. The same soil produces the variety of bloom or shape. The Creator did his part perfectly and well—and in his great love, he gave man the intellect, the cunning and the skill to improve upon the natural elements and parent stocks, and to make these flowers, things of beauty and a joy forever. Time would fail me, and I would weary your patience to pursue this theme further in this direction. But in justice to it, and to you and myself, I must call your attention to the very pleasing effect of foliage plants in landscape gardening. I beheld in one of the smaller parks of Chicago, during the season just closed, such artistic shading, grouping and bordering, and in such good taste as to design, that the term artistic will hardly do it justice. The colors embraced every shade almost from the dusty miller to the gold of the orange, or the paler yellow of the lemon, striped, mottled, plashed and dotted with pink and red and the richest brown. And the plants were of such even height that not even a leaf seemed out of the line, or higher or lower than its fellows. Now, all these shadings of the foliage of coleus, the croton (a variety of *Euphorbia*), or the geraniums, are clearly the result of the art of horticulture. A freak or sport of nature in a leaf has been taken advantage of, perpetuated and multiplied and intensified, and the result is what I

have been able but faintly to describe or outline. Let me ask, and I do it reverently, is horticulture an art that does mend nature?

The New York Mail says, concerning the crotons:

The most decided advance in horticulture of late years has been the cultivation of certain plants, simply for the beauty of their leaves, without regard to the shape or color of their flowers. The coleus family was among the first to be utilized in this way, and the striking contrast of colors produced by massing its infinite varieties, lends a new charm to landscape gardening. In the meantime, many plants possessing variegated leaves of even greater beauty have been introduced, as no enthusiast has a more eager desire for novelty than the true florist, whether amateur or professional.

The newest addition to the list of purely ornamental plants is the croton, one member of which produces the croton oil of commerce. Two or three years ago, but very few varieties of crotons were known to our greenhouses, and those were of rather ordinary and uninteresting appearance, the leaves being of a dull green hue, slightly mottled with spots of sickly yellow or dull red. At the present writing a portion of nearly all first-class conservatories fairly blazed with crotons, bearing leaves of all the colors of the rainbow, and completely eclipsing in their brilliancy the rich and gorging hues of our autumnal foliage. The eccentricity with which this coloring is displayed is the first thing to attract attention. The leaves on one plant may be delicately suffused with rich yet subdued tints; while its neighbor, almost exactly the same in general characteristics, may be all aglow with purple, scarlet and yellow, apparently laid on in blotches, giving as strong a relief as a number of bright pigments upon a palette. Others show an equal contrast in the coloring of the old and new leaves of the same plant. No two leaves upon any plant are variegated alike, and upon certain species of crotons, every leaf is of a distinct color or shade of color.

#### VEGETABLES.

Let us now look for a few moments at the vegetables, which grace every well-set table, and notice what the art horticultural has done to bring them to their present state of perfection. The common as well as the most universal in use is the potato. No meal of which meat forms a part, is complete unless potatoes in some shape form a portion of it. Some of the old favorite varieties, such as the Pinkeye, the Neshannock and the Carter, have almost disappeared, and in their stead, we have the Early and Late Rose, the Snowflake and the Peachblow, and a hundred other varieties of more or less excellence. To any one, even if only theoretically acquainted with the process of originating new varieties of this vegetable staple, it is very evident that patience, perseverance, good judgment in selecting the parent stock, and much skill, are necessary to produce even one new sort worthy of general cultivation, and that three years are necessary to confirm the selection as worthy. Now, if we take into consideration the fact (so claimed to be by many cultivators) that the life of a new sort is only from twelve to fourteen years, we are constrained to yield assent to the legend that this art does mend (aid) nature. All the varieties which we have, the early and the late, the white, red and blue, with their different shapes, forms and sizes and excellencies must have sprung from a common origin, and are therefore the result of skilful manipulation.

Take another highly and justly esteemed vegetable, the garden pea. Of course, we have the Tom Thumb and McLain's Little Gem. Of the earliest and next in size, we have Philadelphia Extra Early, Carter's First Crop, Daniel O'Rourke, &c. Later in the season, the Caractacus, Champion of England and Blue Imperial, and last in season, the Marrowfat, White and Blackeye. (And in passing, let me add that the sorts named are the best, and may all be planted on the same day and follow in succession.) Here we have the pea vine from the smallest dwarf to such as require brush of five feet in height, and a variety that will prove in succession for a month.

Beans are held next in estimation. These embrace a numerous family, but I will not here go into detail. The fact is, the subject grows upon my mind as I proceed. We have early, medium and late, tender pods, like the Valentine, Mohawk and Wax; and such as are not edible, like the Lima and Butter bean. All these are very nutritious, and they have many friends.

Of the cabbage tribe—very varied in kind and quality—I will only mention these two remarkable productions: the Cauliflower and the Kohlrabi. The latter a hybrid of the cabbage, and the turnip partaking of the nature of both; in fact, a turnip grown above ground and on a cabbage stalk. It is very good when young and tender, and comes in season earlier than any variety of cabbage.

It would not be very difficult to take a catalogue of every variety of vegetable, and show the astonishing and marked strides toward perfection, which have been made during the last fifty years in this very interesting field of art.

I will close my remarks on the subject of vegetables by referring to just one more. I well remember the time, just about fifty years ago, when the called love apple (tomato) was introduced into northern Germany. It was then cultivated for the beauty of its fruit, its brilliant red, set off to advantage by the dark green foliage. No one knew that it was fit to eat, or that it would form a favorite dish on many a table. Now look at it as we find it in our markets of almost every conceivable shape, form and color. Surely art has added largely to bring it to its present perfection.

#### THE LANDSCAPE.

Here in the west, which is certainly a term embracing a territory of vast extent, we have prairies of thousands of acres. Standing in the centre of one of these we behold

And what a treasure and feast we have in the great variety and fine quality of our peaches, the original parent stock of which is claimed to be the bitter almond!

There seems to be less net result, less variety and improvement, in the cultivation of nut bearing shrubs and trees, than in anything I have yet attempted to point out. The filbert and the English walnut form perhaps the exception.

I cannot close this review of the art horticultural without referring briefly as may be, to the grape. We all appreciate the generous clusters, the grateful juices and delicate flavors of this delicious fruit. So universal is the esteem in which it has always been held that to describe a land as flowing with milk and honey, and rich in oil and wine, is the very climax of excellence. The grapes of Eschol were counted worthy of special notice. Nature has given us three (perhaps more) varieties known botanically as the *Aestivalis*, the *Labrusca* and the *Vinefera*. The art of the horticulturist has modeled these all over, and we now enjoy the sweet Delaware, the vinous Herkmon and Elsingburg, the aromatic Catawba, the universal Coneord, and the mal-odorous though beautiful Dracut Amber, the hybrids of Rogers, and the luscious and agreeable productions and candidates for favor of Ricketts of Newburg. We have, even now in winter, the Malaga and Mission grapes of California, of Italy, France and Spain. We could wish greater success to the cultivation of this splendid fruit, and even to the production of wine, if thereby we could forever abolish the manufacture of brandy, whiskey and gin; but, alas! for us, this cannot be. Please pardon this digression.

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If you have a fern case or glass shade you can have them (the plants, I mean) in perfection, if you open the glass every day for a few moments to let out the extra moisture. The newer varieties of coleus make beautiful window plants, with plenty of sun and heat. The cyclamen is one of the best window plants; it blooms all winter, and each flower remains in perfection a long time. The new fuchsia, Earl of Beaconsfield, with carmen scarlet flowers three inches or more in length. The Chinese hibiscus are very showy window plants; have handsome evergreen leaves. *H. fulgidus* has large flowers shaped like a single hollyhock, carmine scarlet, with a crimson blotch at the base of each petal. *H. splendens flore pleno* has very showy double scarlet flowers. They like a south window. *Jasminum grandiflorum* is a hard-wooded climber with white, star-shaped, sweet-scented flowers that are freely produced. *Laurustinus* is a hard-wooded shrub with glossy leaves and large clusters of pure white flowers like elder blossoms, blooms all winter, does not much heat. This has been cultivated many years, but is not often seen. Another old plant that deserves a place in the window garden is the daphne, a lovely evergreen plant with clusters of waxy flowers, very fragrant, blooms from December to May. *Rivinum numilis* is a pretty pot plant with racemes of small white flowers, followed by scarlet berries, making it ornamental all the time. *Stevia* and eupatoriums are good for the house, have a profusion of small white flowers that last a long time. The new heliotrope, Snow Wreath, is almost white, very fragrant and grows large. I have one in the greenhouse, a cutting put in last fall, that measured this spring five feet across. It was planted in a solid bed and had plenty of rich earth for its roots to run in. Give plenty of water, rich earth and the sunniest spot you have. The gold and silver tricolor geraniums are handsome, I should not let them bloom; give rich earth and set as near the glass as you can. Some people never turn them, but let them grow flat like a fan; they make a nice show from the street, but of course do not look as well inside. Mountain of Snow is a good, white-edged geranium; Mrs. Pollock and Sun-set are handsome tricolors; Marshal MacMahon is one of the best bronze.

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an ocean of land, the horizon settling down around us without a single tree in sight. Such at least was the prospect thirty-five or forty years ago, in Illinois, Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska. Now take a look at these same prairies; behold the leaf embowered cottages. The smooth lawns, the thrifty orchards, the shade trees by the highways, the evergreen and other shelter belts, all of which, as presented to your view, are result of labor, skill and art and not in this instance the spontaneous production of nature; though the individual tree or shrub or flower are. Perhaps they grew isolated in their native habitat, but the grace and beauty which they now exhibit, grouped as they are in cluster and in stately rectangular rows, are the result of art. As intimated in the outset, God has given us the materials and the intelligent discrimination to work that great problem how the wilderness and the solitary places can be made glad and how the desert can be made to blossom as the rose. In the Book of Books we read about the rivers of life flowing out of the midst of the Throne of God "and on either side of the river was there the tree of life which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month, and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations." So let us labor

THIRTY-FOURTH YEAR

COLMAN'S  
RURAL WORLD.  
NORMAN J. COLMAN.

\$1 Per YEAR.

ADVERTISING: 25 cents per line of space; reduction on large or long time advertisements. Address NORMAN J. COLMAN, Publisher, 300 Olive Street, St. Louis, Mo.

One dollar will pay for the RURAL WORLD from now to January, 1883. A farmer cannot invest a dollar to a better purpose.

The best mucilage is made from gum Arabic. Get it at the drug store. It sells at about thirty cents a pound. Take a small quantity and pour hot water upon it. When it dissolves, pour it into a bottle, and it is ready for use.

The Farmers' Review that has been published at Chicago, at \$1 a year, has raised the price to \$1.50. It is a good farm journal, and worth double the price asked for it. The subscription price of such papers as the Review and the RURAL WORLD, ought to be \$2 per annum.

The twenty-fourth annual meeting of the Missouri Horticultural Society will be held at Columbia, Mo., on the 20th, 21st and 22nd of December. Every fruit grower in the State should be present, and a general invitation is extended to all interested in horticulture inside and outside of the State, to be present and participate in the meeting.

We publish in the department of Farmers' Societies, the constitution and by-laws of the Anti-Horse Thief Association. In some parts of the country, these societies are very necessary to drive out horse thieving gangs. They are being very generally formed throughout Iowa. Any neighborhood wanting to organize one, can now do it by the help of this form.

No premiums ever offered have given better satisfaction than the beautiful clock and the household scales, given by the RURAL WORLD. We would like to send out one thousand of them this winter, and will do it, if our friends will send in the clubs. Only twelve subscribers are required to obtain either of these premiums, and any reader can make up a club in a single day, if he will try diligently.

St. Louis has been selected as the place for holding the next annual meeting of the National Farmers' Alliance. The National Farmers' Congress will be held in St. Louis on the Friday preceding the first Monday in next October. Why cannot both bodies meet the same week? The St. Louis Fair opens on the first Monday of October, and the distinguished farmers from abroad could remain a few days longer and see the largest Fair held in the United States.

It is a long time since butter was as scarce and high at this season of the year in St. Louis as it is at present. In a hundred or more of the commission houses of St. Louis, could be found at most any time a variety of grades of butter from the country stores, where a large number of consumers found it to their advantage to buy; but this season, they seek it in vain. Rarely do the commission men now receive a package of butter. The regular butter dealers and jobbers are now favored by visits from all classes of consumers, so we judge they are blessed with a most profitable season.

The meeting of the Mississippi Valley Cane Growers' Association on the 3rd of January, in St. Louis, will be the largest and most instructive yet held by that society. If those who propose to attend, will address a note to the editor of the RURAL WORLD, St. Louis, stating what railroad, they will travel over in coming here, he will do the best he can to procure a reduction of rates. It will pay everyone engaged in growing or manufacturing sorghum to attend the meeting. Much information can be obtained at such a meeting, that can be got at no other place. It will pay every one to learn how to make the best quality of both syrup and sugar.

We know of a pasture lot of about ten acres that two years ago had about half a dozen Spanish thistles upon it that were allowed to go to seed. Last year they grew by the hundred upon it, and were allowed to go to seed. A few days ago we passed over it, and we know we are telling the truth when we say there are a million of young thistles growing on the same piece. The drought killed the grass, which gave the seed the free use of the ground, and the fall rains came on, germinating the seed under the most favorable circumstances, and there is now the most promising crop of thistles that one ever saw on the same space of ground. And all of this could have been prevented by five minutes' work at the start. Farmers should take a lesson from this, and whenever they see a noxious weed on the farm, destroy it at once. A few minutes' work may thus save days and even weeks of labor.

In traveling over the country, we are gratified to see the fine prospect for wheat, but there is one thing needed yet in many wheat fields, and that is surface drainage. Whenever water will lay after a rain, there will wheat be winter killed. Nothing will pay the farmer better for his time than to make provisions at once for the removal of all surplus water after a rain. In many fields this can be done with a plow, by opening furrows in such direction as to carry off the water to the lowest portions of the field. If some additional aid is needed, it should be given with the spade. Unless this is done a great deal of winter-killing will be done in wet ground. Where there is too much moisture the plants will be heaved out by the freezing and thawing of winter. The water when it freezes is expanded and lifts up the soil and the plants, hence all water should be removed at once, as winter will probably visit us soon.

It is not winter, but autumn weather that we now have. Farmers will be far ahead with their usual spring's work. Fields are being cleared of stumps and logs, and plowed in the best manner. Fences are being made and repaired, and the farm put into the best shape for next year's management. Wood is being chopped for next summer's use, and hauled to the woodshed. More sheds, stables and barns have been made the past fall than we have seen built in a long time before, on account of the short crop of winter feed on hand. Farmers are beginning to appreciate that if they want to economize, they must keep their animals warm; that shelter saves feed, saves flesh, and saves animal life. The continued open weather is favorable to stock, as those who have grass are not yet compelled to feed hay or grain. The rye pastures are looking splendidly, and the stock running upon them are looking equally well.

The high prices prevailing for corn have hardly been thought of in connection with the manufacture of whiskey, but to the distillers it long ago became a serious matter. The producers of the destructive article in a liquid state, got their heads together, reflected, debated, and finally concluded their interests demanded a change. The visible supply in market was found to be large, and could continue to be furnished in such liberal quantities at a very small profit only, so it was argued that salvation lay in distilling less, buying less of the ingredients that enter into its composition and offer less. Thus the supply would grow small and prices higher. As a result of these conferences, the leading distilleries of St. Louis are now running on half time, and the proprietors of the concerns have pooled their issues, and the public will be squeezed in the most systematic manner for the benefit of the gentlemen cornering the market. Why will not the consumers combine now and go on half rations and thus knock the life out of the proposed corner?

The shortage of the cotton crop in most sections of the south has not only brought poverty to the doors of the planters, but ruin to many of the store keepers, who were carrying the produce and awaited the crop for payment. In southern Arkansas the outlook is of the gloomist character. The planters are unable to pay the store keepers, who, in turn, are not in a condition to meet their liabilities in St. Louis and other markets supplying them; even in the fruit growing sections, many of the merchants have failed, for the fruit crop was almost a failure, but the suffering has been greatest in the cotton sections. The failure of the cotton crop disarranges the whole machinery of trade, for all are more or less dependent on it. The experience of the past season is surely a forcible lesson, and suggests the great importance of growing a variety of crops, for even in the most unfavorable seasons, all crops are not failures. Thus something would be left, and the farmer or planter would have something to rely on, or help bridge over unlooked for disasters. The salvation of the south is evidently in a greater variety of crops and industries, and it may be added in this connection that the needed reform is fairly underway, and in a few years there will be much to point to with pride in every State in the south.

The weather, the past month or more, has been such as played sad havoc with perishable produce in all the leading markets of the west. The cool, clear atmosphere, receivers and dealers in produce naturally expected at this season, rarely existed, but instead prevailed a damp, warm or mild weather of the most disastrous character to such products. Potatoes, onions, apples, cranberries, cabbage, game and poultry, such goods as suffer by such unfavorable weather, have been selling low on this account. Goods of this class cannot escape the effects of such weather, in either store, cellar or warehouse, and in consequence, speculators and receivers have been unloading fast as possible. The poultry market since Thanksgiving has been particularly unfortunate. The market broke down under heavy receipts for that occasion, and as shipments continued to come for some time afterwards, prices remained down

—more owing to unfavorable weather, however, so the buyers had everything their own way. In Chicago a similar state of affairs existed, and equally low prices. The meat canning companies, however, entered the market for dressed poultry, and saved thousands of pounds from being dumped, paying five to six cents per pound. Unless more favorable weather soon sets in, goods of this kind will be remarkably scarce and high after the holidays are over, and those parties who can carry over such goods will be well repaid for their trouble.

The tariff men are hard at work to make people believe that it is right to tax other people to make themselves rich. Recently conventions of tariff men have been held in Chicago and New York, for this purpose. In other words they want themselves made a privileged class. They want laws made to give them the privilege of taxing everybody who buys the goods they make. If goods of any kind could be introduced here and sold at half the prices they charge, they say this is all wrong. These goods must be kept out of the market, and the farmers and all other classes, must pay the prices we charge for our manufactured goods. They want a tariff so high as to be prohibitory, so they can have the full swing of the market, and charge whatever they please. They want the poor man, and the rich man, to contribute to their coffers. They don't want people to be allowed to buy where they can buy the cheapest, but buy where they have to pay the most. They want to be a little world of themselves, and to shut out everybody else that makes what they do from competing with them. We have never believed that one class in this country was better than any other class. We have never believed that class legislation was just the right thing in a free country. We have never thought the law an honest one that makes one set of men rich and another poor. And yet just such laws are upon our statute books, and we are all taxed from 35 per cent to 500 per cent. for the benefit of a class. This makes living high. Nothing used in the household, nothing worn by a man or his family, that is manufactured abroad, but a high tariff is put upon it that the American manufacturer may have the privilege of charging high prices. The cheap goods are kept out that the manufacturer of the homemade goods may grow rich. Many think the increased prices they pay go to the treasury of the United States, but that is not the case. The tariff men don't want a revenue tariff, they want a high protective tariff—a tariff that will protect them from competition, a tariff that will enable them to charge high prices for their goods. A low tariff is a revenue tariff, a high tariff is a protective or prohibitory tariff, giving the manufacturers the monopoly of the home market. And these men go before intelligent people and make converts to such doctrine. They want people to believe that the more they pay for their goods, the greater blessings they enjoy.

The RURAL WORLD will enter its thirty-fifth year on the first of January next, with a larger circulation and with brighter prospects than it has enjoyed during its long existence. Not a day passes that new subscribers are not added to its list. While it claims to be a practical agricultural paper, yet it also takes the liveliest interest in the breeding and care of all kinds of live stock. Its departments devoted to cattle, horses, sheep, swine, poultry, the dairy and the apiculture, are surpassed by but few journals especially devoted to the breeding interests. It collects and compresses into a small space a large amount of valuable matter weekly, relating to each branch of domestic animals. Its horticultural department is unequalled by any paper published in the Mississippi Valley. In the department devoted to Farmers' Societies, the political interests and rights of the farmer are boldly advocated, and the wrongs which he is compelled to endure, under the present order of things, are plainly told. Of course, in that great industry in which every person is interested, because, if successful, it will cheapen and furnish a pure article of daily consumption in every family—we refer to making syrup and sugar from northern cane—the RURAL WORLD has not a rival on the globe; and the aid which it is rendering to the followers of this industry, cannot be computed in dollars and cents. And we are pleased to announce that the results, even in this most unfavorable season, are gratifying, and point unmistakably to a grand future for this industry, in which every citizen will derive a substantial benefit—for the day will dawn in this country when we shall produce all our own sugar, and be exporters instead of importers of this product. But what we started out to say was, that we feel in the highest degree gratified with our success, and with the prospects before us. We have labored diligently to make the RURAL worthy of its increased patronage, and have furnished the paper to its readers at less than its actual cost, and expect to continue to do so. Our object is to do as large an amount of good as is possible. We would like to add, in the next sixty days, at least ten thousand new subscribers. Now

this can very easily be done by our readers, if they will only try to do it. While some may be unable to send any—yet we doubt this—others can send us clubs of a dozen or more, and thus get our valuable, useful premiums—the clock or scales, or both. We earnestly ask each reader to see what he can do for us now—before the friends of other papers are in the field. This is the time to begin to club us. Do it well. We will stand it as well as we can. How many will club us with a small or big club? We await your action.

The message of Gov. Blackburn of Ky., to the people of his State, goes to show the importance of the improvement of the Mississippi. He says the Mississippi Valley contains 2,000,000 square miles, furnishes 87 per cent of the corn crop of the country 69 per cent of the wheat crop 72 per cent of the rye crop, 75 per cent of the tobacco crop, 74 per cent of the cotton crop and 71 per cent of the hay crop; that its people pay \$80,000,000 a year taxes on whiskey and tobacco and yet from the foundation of the government less than \$25,000,000 has been appropriated by Congress for the improvement of its navigable waters. He adds that \$10,000,000 a year should be expended on the great river and its navigable tributaries. Western members of Congress should paste these figures inside their hats.

## Information Wanted.

COL. COLMAN: I wish to ask of some of your many correspondents a faithful description of the physical appearance of the country, as to timber or prairie streams, springs, hills and mountains, and general face of the country, and elevation above sea level. Also condition as to climate, health, schools, churches, country indebtedness, fruit, general crops, soil, price of land, improved or unimproved, depth of wells, whether hard or soft water, number of population, white and colored each, political complexion and vote at last election, Democratic or Republican, &amp;c., and such other facts as a home seeker might wish to know, concerning the counties of Texas.

W. H. WIRICK: West Point, Rush Co., Kansas.

## St. Louis Amusements.

"The World," a stupendous realistic drama, is now running at the Grand Opera House, and it is a marvelous production. Its action are represented a beautiful scene of Cape Town, with a steamer, life size, steaming into the ocean; a steamship destroyed by an infernal machine; a terrible picture of four castaways on a raft in mid-ocean; a mad house scene transformed into a panorama of the Thames; a realistic hotel and elevator scene with a fearful accident, which ends the play. It is a wonderful example of the perfection to which stage representation has attained and is drawing enormous houses. All who can do should see this remarkable production.

At the Olympic theatre the finest minstrel show ever given in St. Louis, is being presented by Messrs. Barlow, Wilson, Primrose and West's Company. These gentlemen seem to have reached the acme of perfection in this popular style of entertainment, and they are packing this popular house at every performance.

At Pope's Theatre Steele Mackaye's new drama on Judge Tongue's novel, "A Fool's Errand," is drawing good houses. A sensational picture of how matters are not in the south, tinted with peculiar prejudice and bigotry, still there is fine dramatic material in the story and Mr. Mackaye has used this, eliminating the objectionable political features and constructed a stirring drama.

The Peoples' Theatre is attracting splendid audiences with Joe Murphy's interesting and picturesque Irish drama of "The Kerry Gow." It is one of the best established successes on the stage, is superbly set and acted, and is perhaps the best play of its kind now given to the public.

The attractions for next week are as follows: "The World" at the Grand Opera House, second week; N. C. Goodwin and Eliza Weatherly in "Hobbies" at the Olympia; John S. Clarke, the greatest low comedian on the stage, at Pope's. At the Peoples' Theatre an especially interesting attraction will be offered in "My Sweetheart," in which R. E. Graham and Minnie Palmer, a very funny comedian and a charming soubrette actress will appear.

## Society Meetings.

National Butter, Cheese and Egg Association, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, November 29th to December 2d.

National Wool Growers' Association, Grand Union Hotel, New York, November 28th.

Kansas State Horticultural Society, Lawrence, December 6th.

Iowa State Improved Stock Association, Iowa City, December 6th.

Illinois State Horticultural Society, Grand Pacific Hotel, Chicago, December 6th.

Cotton Planters Association, Atlanta, Ga., December 6th.

Missouri State Board of Agriculture, Columbia, December 13th.

Illinois State Dairymen's Association, Dundee, Dec. 14, 15 and 16.

Missouri State Horticultural Society, Columbia, December 20th.

Indiana Poultry Association, Indianapolis, January 4th to 11th, 1882.

Mississippi Valley Cane Growers' Association, St. Louis, January 3 to 5, 1882.

National Agricultural Convention, Washington, D. C., January 10 to 17.

## Saving Seed Corn.

EDITOR RURAL WORLD: Last fall I borrowed a copy of the RURAL WORLD from one of my neighbors, and read an article in it—how to save seed corn—which I put in practice. It was to pull the best top ears off for seed when gathering the corn in the fall. The seed corn I planted last spring did first-rate, many of the stalks bearing three ears. Not having saved quite enough seed corn, I had to go to the crib for the balance, and that scarcely yielded an ear to the stalk. I also saw much other good advice in the RURAL, and have subscribed for it, and think every farmer would find that it would pay him many times over to take it.

W. M. SHIELDS.

Monroe county, Ills.

## The Markets.

St. Louis, December 7, 1881.

[Prices herewith are for round lots in first hands. Small order lots charged at higher prices. Buyers pay first ten days' storage, except in special bins.]

FLOUR—Sacks—24 bbls at \$4 65, 135 at \$5 25 del, 50 at \$5 40, 42 at \$5 43 del, 61 at \$6 20, 25 at \$5 75, 145 at \$6 02, 50 at \$6 25, 125 at \$6 45, 90 at \$6 50 del, 125 at \$6 60, 120 at \$6 70, 50 at \$7 25 475 on p. t.

COIN MEAL—Active and firm. Sales of city on orders at \$3 35@3 40 del. Grains and hominy and pearl meal at \$3 25 del.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—Demand light. Choice New York at \$9 50.

RYE FLOUR—Firm at \$6 00@6 25, as in

kind.

WHEAT—No. 2 red at \$1 34, No. 3 red at \$1 30, No. 4 at \$1 19. Mediterranean—No. 2 at \$1 38, No. 3 \$1 32.

COIN—No 2 mixed at \$3 1/4, No 2 white-mixed at 60¢, rejected white-mixed at 66¢, rejected 59¢.

OATS—No. 2 at 46 1/4, mixed at 51¢, prime at 52¢.

RYE—Grade No 2 at 97¢. Samples at 99¢.

BAKERS—At \$5 40@ \$1 01.

HAY—Prime prairie at \$13 14@13, choice at \$15 25, prime timothy at \$15 50@16, choice timothy at \$12 50.

HORSES—Common and undressed \$95@100; good to choice \$105@120; dressed \$160 to \$190; shorts \$130@150; hackled tow \$65@75.

BUTTER—No material change in the market for the past few days. Receipts fair, and demand steady for all the better grades. We quote: fancy creamery 33@40¢; fair to choice 36@37¢; fancy dairy 30@35¢; good to choice 32@34¢; fair to good, 24@30¢; common to fair and store packed, etc., 15@26¢.

CHEESE—Good to choice full stock 12@14¢; good to choice part skim, 10@11¢; poor 8@5¢.

EGGS—Scarce and higher at 2¢ for fresh.

POULTRY—Turkey \$6@7; Chickens—small to fair \$1 25@2 25, good to choice 1 50@1 75; fancy \$2; ducks—medium to good 2 00@2 50; squirrel 60@75¢; deer 4@6¢ 3/4@ gross; wild turkeys 6¢; possum 5@20¢.

POTATOES—In steady demand and firm. Sales: Minn. Peacock \$1 10; Iowa do 1 10; N. Y. Rose at \$1 10@1 15 per bu.

SWEET POTATOES—Jerseys at \$2 50@2 75 per bbl; home-grown Nansemond 1 15@1 20; Bermuda at \$1 75 per bu. loose.

ONIONS—Lower and dull. Yellow \$3 00@6 as in size. Live-chickens \$1@1 50; turkeys \$4@7; ducks \$2@2 25; geese \$3@4 00.

GARLIC—We quote: Grapes at \$4 50, quail \$1 25@1 50; ducks—mallard \$1 50, teal \$1 25, snipe \$1, plover 50@60¢, rabbits \$1 40, squirrel 60@75¢; deer 4@6¢ 3/4@ gross; wild turkeys 6¢; possum 5@20¢.

on either side of the river, from Pueblo to Kansas.—Correspondence Denver Republican.

#### Diseases of Stock.

Hugh Clements writes, in the London Live Stock Journal, that considerable progress has been made of late in the treatment of diseases of stock, but much still remains to be done. The practice of bleeding, which was once so common for almost every ailment, has been all but abandoned, with very beneficial effect in the saving of animal life by other more approved remedies. Still, after all has been said in favor of present modes of treatment of the various diseases of stock, there is no doubt but that a very large percentage proportion of the medicines administered do little good, if they are not positively injurious. Surgical treatment is considerably in advance of medicinal.

In many cases nature will work a cure without the aid of medicine or treatment; and if the animal has been treated with neutral or harmless remedies, they get the credit of effecting a cure. Natural causes are effected by the changing seasons of the year. Thus, there are certain specified diseases peculiar to each period, and the approach and arrival of the succeeding seasons, by inducing contrary vital changes, arrest the progress of specified diseases, causing their final disappearance. In the first quarter of the year the vital changes are at their maximum, continuing onward into spring, decreasing on the approach of summer, when the vital functions are at their minimum, and onwards into autumn, towards the end of which they increase on the approach of winter. Bronchitis, pneumonia, apoplexy, epilepsy, etc., are most prevalent in winter when the temperature is lowest and vital changes are greatest, the approach of spring and summer especially, effecting a general cure of these complaints, which begin to increase in autumn, culminating in the cold season.

Again, diarrhea attains its maximum intensity in summer, when the temperature is highest, and the vital functions are at their lowest ebb, and gradually decreases till winter and the beginning of spring, when this complaint reaches its minimum point. And if we consider the various degrees affecting animal life we shall find, as a rule, that each attains its maximum intensity in one or the other seasons, the number of cases in the periods of the year being less, attaining a minimum when the vital functions or changes, the temperature and other conditions are in the opposite or contrary state. An animal with a sound constitution, properly fed, housed and treated, will enjoy an almost perfect immunity from disease, while those of unsound bodily condition will be liable, though the treatment may be first-class; still, however, a strict attention to the rules of health will often ward off complaints that would otherwise have broken out.

Though many diseases that now affect stock are preventable, being often due to gross negligence, still, however, many animals have tendencies to certain forms of disease, which, if developed beyond a definite limit by seasonable or other influences, become apparent; but while they keep under this limit the complaint is latent, and the health is not appreciably affected.

In summer there is more or less general debility of the animal economy, less muscular tone, less power to endure fatigue and to resist adverse influences, due to the diminished vital changes, there being less food taken, less assimilated, less heat generated, and consequently the rate and force of respiration is considerably decreased. While, during this season, the disposition of heat by the action of the skin, the lubrication of fluids, the power of the blood, the relaxation of the tissues, and the superficial distribution of the blood, in winter there exists an opposite condition of the body, while in autumn and spring these conditions are not so pronounced either way.

#### The Horseman.

##### Demand for Good Horses.

There has seldom been a more urgent demand for good, serviceable business horses than exists at the present time, and the visible supply has seldom been smaller. There is everywhere an earnest inquiry for this class of horses, and as compared with one year ago, prices are fully twenty-five per cent in advance. A good, neat young brood mare of heavy weight, which the owner is willing to sell, is a great rarity, and can only be obtained at a high price. With this state of affairs existing, no argument is necessary to prove that a field of enterprise is open to our agriculturists, highly remunerative in character, and which should be promptly accepted, and a judicious selection of both sire and dam be made.

It is a fact that, while young horses from twelve to fourteen hundred pounds weight, of good muscular development, and with strong limbs, will always find ready purchasers at a price that the breeder can afford to take, yet through the better selections of the sire, by which a smoother built progeny may be obtained, with some pretensions to style, and better action of limb, an increase of 25 per cent in value may be reasonably expected. Should this statement be doubted, we would advise the incredulous ones to start out on a still hunt for a "tony" of fine action and good size or for a brood mare, from which he might safely indulge in the hope of raising such, and he will not be very long, if endowed with a moderate amount of sagacity in horsemanship, in reaching such conclusions.

The Dwyer Brothers have named the chestnut colt foaled 1880, by imp. Bonnie Scotland, dam Nevada, full brother of Luke Blackburn, Joe Blackburn, in honor of the member of Congress from Kentucky. The same gentlemen have also claimed Red and Blue as the name of the chestnut filly foaled 1880, by Alarm, dam Maggie B. B. (dam of Bramble \$100).

From March 21 to November 11, inclusive, Fred Archer, who heads the list of winning jockeys, had 500 mounts, of which number he won 205, a fraction of more than one win in every two and a half mounts—the best winning average he ever made.

Parsons promises to take a leading position upon the turf next season. If she comes through the winter sound she will probably be tried double with Wedgewood, and if the pair works right it will be entered in the great double-team race next year.

The largest winning race-horse stable of the season of 1881 was that of the Dwyer Brothers, who head the list with \$66,705.50. Hindoo leads with nearly \$60,000 to his credit. Luke Blackburn, the sensational three-year-old of 1880, won but \$500; and Bramble \$100.

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William Youmans, a wealthy lawyer of Delhi, N. Y., has two horses buried in his front yard and a magnificent granite monu-

ment erected in their memory. It bears this inscription: "This monument erected by William Youmans to the memory of Rob and Charlie, who died in 1879, aged 36 and 37 years. In life inseparable, in death united. Ever truly and faithfully, Travelers, hat! Greater travelers than you stop here!"

An invention to prevent horses from cribbing has recently been tried in Paris. Mr. A. Angstrom has constructed an apparatus by which an electrical current is led to the mouth of the horse as soon as it touches the edge of the manger. The horse which thus receives a shock will soon be cured of the bad habit of crib biting. The edge of the crib is for this purpose connected with two copper bands, which are separated from each other by a plate of caoutchouc to which they are fastened. Each band communicates with the pole of an electrical battery, so that as soon as the horse bites the crib it touches one of the copper bands, uniting a spring which connects the electrical chain, and the shock is given.

#### The Shepherd.

Edited by R. M. Bell, of Brighton, Macoupin Co., Ill., to whom all matter relating to this department should be addressed.

There is a good deal written in favor of the Angora goats now-a-days. We would be glad to hear of a single person who has made money by keeping them, on their fleeces alone. Of course if a breeder can find green ones to buy the stock raised, at good prices, he may make money; but he who has fleeced the buyer, unless he in turn fleeces some one who buys from him. Will any of our readers, who have sold their fleeces, tell us how much they brought them, and who were the purchasers?

#### Illinois Wool Growers' Association.

EDITOR RURAL WORLD: The Illinois Wool Growers' Association, which met at the Peoria (Ills.) Fair Grounds, September 23, 1881, was called to order by President A. M. Garland at 7:30 p.m. Minutes of last meeting read by the secretary and approved.

Report of committee on cups to be awarded as premiums on flocks, as ordered at last meeting and advertised in the premium list of State Board of Agriculture, read and approved.

Treasurer's report read and approved.

Motion by Abner Strawn of Ottawa, to change flock of Cotswolds, as it now reads, to one ram, one-year-old, and five ewes, one-year-old, and one ram lamb and five ewe lambs, which was seconded and adopted; also for other long wools. The same arrangement for middle wools was proposed and adopted.

Brother farmers, don't you think a nice mutton chop would be nice for breakfast than a slice of pork that may be, died of hog cholera?—Barney Lillard in Southern Cultivator.

Election resulted in the choice of the persons whose names and offices are here given: President, A. M. Gaillard, Springfield; Sangamon county, Ills.; secretary and treasurer, V. P. Richmond, Morris, Madison county; vice-presidents, 1st district, Daniel Kelly, Wheaton, DuPage county; 2d, H. D. Emery, Chicago, Cook county; 3d, ——; 4th, George E. Peck, Geneva, Kane county; 5th, J. L. Moore, Polo, Ogle county; 6th, Samuel Dyras, Dixon, Lee county; 7th, Abner Strawn, Ottawa, LaSalle county; 8th, F. E. Day, Streator; 9th, Andrew Oliver, Elmira, Stark county; 10th, M. C. Brownlee, Monmouth, Warren county; 11th, Robert M. Bell, Brighton, Macoupin county; 12th, J. R. Megginson, Jacksonville, Morgan county; 13th, Thomas Taylor, Waynesville, DeWitt county; 14th, J. S. Brown, Decatur, Macon county; 15th, Jno. Turner, Todd's Point, Shelby county; 16th, O. B. Nichols, Carlyle, Clinton county; 17th, Jas. M. Scott, Belleville, St. Clair county; 18th, R. L. Robertson, Sparta, Randolph county; 19th, Jos. Skeavington, Albion, Edwards county.

After fastening him securely in this manner step aside and watch the result. When he settles back to business he will find an impediment in the rear that will bring him up with a round turn, and will see as surprised a horse as ever was foiled in a vicious trick. If he is not inclined to pull at first, contrive a way to get something in front of him to frighten him a little, and encourage him to exert himself vigorously once or twice, and after that you probably cannot induce him to make the attempt. A few lessons of this kind will break the worst cases, and the cost will not exceed the value of the cord, while all risk of injury is avoided.

After the election, Hon. Sam'l Archer of Kansas City, Mo., read a very able essay on judging sheep by scale of points and by experts, which was well received and a hearty vote of thanks given him at the close.

Mr. Scott of Kentucky, favored judging sheep by scale of "points of excellence," and others made short speeches in favor of the plan.

Col. Charles F. Mills gave an off-hand speech in favor of the long wools, and the promise of reducing it to writing, for the benefit of the association. He also made some remarks in favor of keeping long wools in large flocks.

Mr. James Cotton of Camargo, Ford county, an extensive breeder and importer of Down sheep, read a very excellent paper on that family of sheep and their adaptability to this State.

After a very interesting meeting until 11 o'clock p.m., and remarks by Messrs. Graham, Scott, Strawn and others, the association adjourned to meet at the same place at 7 o'clock p.m. of Wednesday of the next State Fair in 1882.

Reports of the essays will appear in the Report of the State Board of Agriculture for the year 1881, and perhaps earlier in the agricultural papers, and such local papers as wish to publish them.

A. M. GARLAND, President.

V. P. RICHMOND, Secretary.

Sheep on Alfalfa.

It appears that alfalfa is constantly growing in popular esteem as feed for sheep in the southwest, in Colorado and the Pacific States. One of our California contemporaries says that alfalfa growers from as far north as Russian river to the famous alfalfa grounds of Kern county, and even to the moist lowlands of Los Angeles and San Bernardino counties, have found that the great amount of alfalfa which can be grown to the acre and the high price which can be had for the clean bright wool which comes from alfalfa pasture, are great inducements to the same style of wool growing on lands which are suitable. The same course of conduct is spreading in the newer States of the Rocky Mountain district.

The value of this plant in sheep husbandry, where the climate presents conditions that it requires to make it flourish in luxuriance, is not questioned, but we would not advise farmers to place much reliance upon it where success in growing it is not already assured. We have published the experience of farmers in central Missouri and some parts of Kansas which is not very favorable to its cultivation. The treatment appeared to have been judicious, but the plant did not thrive, and after three years' trial it was abandoned. Several years, however, are required to establish it in the soil, and with a succession of favorable seasons and prudent management this plant may be valuable to sheep husbandry in those States.—Prairie Farmer.

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## The Home Circle.

### Woman.

DEAR RURAL: Every member of the Home Circle I believe, or nearly every one, has given his opinion about woman. I once wrote some articles on this subject, which neither pleased the gentlemen nor the ladies. One bright little lady called me "a shallow-pated writer," and a professor said that I had "ignorantly or maliciously lied."

In this article I shall demonstrate to my own satisfaction the mental inferiority of the "fair sex," in my next I shall attempt to prove the moral superiority of woman.

There are two good reasons for expecting woman to be mentally inferior to man:

1. Woman's body is inferior in vigor and strength to that of man. "A sound mind in a sound body," is one of the few ancient maxims accepted by modern science. Tom Thumb and General Deckers have never accomplished anything. There are only a few instances in history that little men were distinguished for intellectual power. Pope may be referred to as a great little man, but no one will contend that he possessed the highest order of mind. All the great men have been great workers. Little men have not the capacity for severe study possessed by men of robust constitutions. Women are not better fitted than little men for profound study.

2. The vocations of women do not generally demand the highest development of mind. Although men are better fitted by nature for severe study, and, consequently, to develop more fully the mind, yet, if man had always done woman's work, and woman man's, I believe woman would possess more mental power and originality. It has always been the special work of man to make discoveries, to make inventions, to develop commerce, etc. The vocations of men have been those which are best suited to develop genius. Woman's work has generally been confined to the home. To my mind it does not seem that washing dishes, cooking, sewing on buttons, making fine dresses, etc., are very well adapted to develop the mind to a great degree.

On the other hand many men have followed some lofty calling as a business or profession. They have earned their bread by being poets, philosophers, lawyers, politicians, statesmen, merchants, bankers, architects, painters, etc. Neccessity generally attends invention. Napoleon's vocation developed his military genius. Politics developed the orator and the statesman.

When women have tried literature, art or science, they have generally done so from a desire for pastime, and not from necessity. To expect women who engage in literature, art or science, for pastime to become as accomplished as those who engage in them as professions, would be as unreasonable as to expect the man who practises gymnastics for exercise to become as skillful as the professional athlete.

Thus far I have depended on argument. I now propose to let history speak for itself. Whatever we may expect woman to accomplish it is certain, if history does not tell a fib, that she never has equalled man in any department of art, literature or science, excepting only vocal music. She has never reached the rank of Homer or Shakespeare. Nor has she even equalled Virgil, Dante, Goethe, Heine, Cornelia, Alder, Spenser, Milton, Lord Byron, Racine, etc. Mrs. Browning, the greatest of all poetesses, is, perhaps, worthy of a place in the third rank with Tennyson, Longfellow, Bryant, etc. No woman can for a moment be compared with Herodotus, Thucydides, Niebuhr, Guizot, Gibbon, Hume, Macaulay. The fair sex can show no philosopher equal to Aristotle, Bacon or Newton. By the admission of a woman, Rachel, the greatest actress, is not equal in every respect to Salvini—but there have been several Salvini.

"Here lies David Garrick, describe me who can, An abridgement of all that is noble in man. As an actor confessed without rival to shine, As an author if not first in the very first line."

I need not continue this essay much further. If you will examine every department of learning, you will find that woman has been excelled by man. I might remark in conclusion that woman has never invented anything of importance. So far as I know she has never even invented a cooking stove, a wash-tub, a churn, or a cradle. I must confess that third class girls who have been "sweet sixteen" for ten years, show considerable ingenuity in manipulating back hair, breastworks, Grecian bends, false teeth, face powders, smiles, etc. One of these old young girls when she is in love is one of the sweetest things in existence. I attended a wedding last night and when it came to that point where the groom sometimes kisses the bride, I could see the mouths of these girls twisting and wrinkling, protruding and subsiding as though they were involuntarily going through the process of osculation. When one of these ingenious girls tells a handsome and unsuspecting young man like Lloyd Guyot that his letters "form a pleasing contrast to the gigantic efforts of somebody else at sarcasm," he had better look out.

No, Lily of the Valley, I know Bon Ami too well to be hurt by what he says about me.

Minnie F., "Guyot" is pronounced Ge—the hard sound of "g" and long sounds of "e" and "o." I am not so hard to get along with as my name.

Fifty-Seven, I am glad to see you with us again. You have noticed, I suppose, how nicely Bon Ami is summed up by Minnie F. in one of her let-

ters, she says: "I think Bon Ami is a good writer. The great trouble with him seems to be (if he will pardon me for saying so), that he is already too conscious of that fact to be popular."

Paulus, as soon as my school closes here, I shall go to Columbia and stay for two years. Best wishes.

Where are all of our writers? The last week's RURAL is wretchedly lonesome, but there is an abundance of nutriment in the letter on "Phonetic Spelling." It surpasses magnificence! Good night.

LLOYD GUYOT.

### Gainesville, Texas.

### Letter From Wild Flower.

Sitting in my quiet room, this beautiful, bright Sabbath, my mind reverts with pleasure and sadness, to you, dear friends of the Home Circle. We are so widely scattered, and many of us so differently situated, yet we all read the same articles, and, doubtless, often make the same comments. Some of you this morning are bright, joyous and happy; many are buoyant with flattering hopes for the future, while others are under the dark cloud of sorrow, grieving the absence of a beloved brother, a cherished sister, or the loss of a "blue eyed darling" whose presence will never make glad their hearts again in this life. I know, and can sympathize with the heartaches attendant on such bereavements, for I too, "often sigh for the touch of the vanished hand, and the sound of the voice that is still." But when God makes up His jewels, the children of His love, they will be there as it is possible to do so.

I am in hopes that Lloyd Guyot, Bon Ami and Paulus have concluded to drop their wranglings, prompted as they are, by a surplus of egotism, under which these three seem to labor. Controversies of such belittling and sarcastic a nature can be of no benefit to the Home Circle, nor do they reflect any credit upon the writers. Bon Ami seems to have fallen from grace with some of the other writers, but I admire his fearlessness and independence in expressing his opinions. I see there are several new members (whom I have not the pleasure of knowing) who hail from this country, and among them Cousin Kate offers some timely suggestions.

I will say to Kentucky Girl that I appreciate her warm words of approval, coming as I know they do, from the heart, and I only hope that my remarks have induced some "lord of creation" to be more indulgent towards his better half. To Idyll I extend my sincere sympathy in her bereavement, for I well remember the favorable impression her many boy left upon my mind. In my next I will tell what I saw in the extensive greenhouse on the grounds of the Agricultural College at Columbia, on my recent visit, and name some of the best varieties of those especial pets of mine, coleus, geraniums and roses, of which I made notes on my visit to Shaw's Garden, and to some noted florists in the east, last year.

Cousin Charlie, Lexington, November 27.

### Letter From Lloyd Guyot.

Bon Ami does not content himself with ruining the character of the Missouri Republican, but with a zeal that would rival the ambitions of Parahusius, he now brings his engines of destruction to bear upon Noah Webster and Archbishop French. The former is dead and the latter will doubtless commit suicide. How long is our world to hold together, if this model critic is permitted to run at large and divest dead men of their dearly bought terrestrial honors? But this is not the worst. What are we to do for a spelling-book? Bon Ami has proved (?) the utter worthlessness of all the works on orthography—proved that he has studied Latin by giving us an adjective and noun (he has never studied the verb yet) in that language. He is also a French scholar as you will see by his dexterity in handling *beau* and *belle*. Oh, my! In a very suggestive letter of the aforesaid prodigies published in a late RURAL, he has this to say of his connexion with the Home Circle: "I have rarely expressed my views on any subject."

Well, now, will he permit me to smile? Oh, no, he rarely expresses his views on any subject! As he designs entering the newspaper business, I would humbly suggest that he consult with Don Juan immediately, in view of a co-partnership in said avocation with said Don Juan; and that he notify Sait Don Juan in order to get him as a stockholder in said paper. Under the auspices of this not inelegant union, I trust he will find journalism fully adapted to his high degree of mental power.

In concluding the article just referred to, Bon Ami has this to say: "Take this for what it is worth. I don't know you, nor do you know me; so I do not care, have not cared, anything about the opinion you entertain for me. When there is nothing to gain and nothing to lose, one can afford to be independent." Well, may I smile again? Why, Bon Ami, you are mistaken, for the readers of the RURAL know you just as well as your exceedingly good capacity for exposing your bad qualities will permit. And it is no mean knowledge they have of you either. Now, Ami, we can have a little argument in the RURAL as the R—r would not publish your article.

No, Lily of the Valley, I know Bon Ami too well to be hurt by what he says about me.

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Sitting in my quiet room, this beautiful, bright Sabbath, my mind reverts with pleasure and sadness, to you, dear friends of the Home Circle. We are so widely scattered, and many of us so differently situated, yet we all read the same articles, and, doubtless, often make the same comments. Some of you this morning are bright, joyous and happy; many are buoyant with flattering hopes for the future, while others are under the dark cloud of sorrow, grieving the absence of a beloved brother, a cherished sister, or the loss of a "blue eyed darling" whose presence will never make glad their hearts again in this life. I know, and can sympathize with the heartaches attendant on such bereavements, for I too, "often sigh for the touch of the vanished hand, and the sound of the voice that is still." But when God makes up His jewels, the children of His love, they will be there as it is possible to do so.

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I will say to Kentucky Girl that I appreciate her warm words of approval, coming as I know they do, from the heart, and I only hope that my remarks have induced some "lord of creation" to be more indulgent towards his better half. To Idyll I extend my sincere sympathy in her bereavement, for I well remember the favorable impression her many boy left upon my mind. In my next I will tell what I saw in the extensive greenhouse on the grounds of the Agricultural College at Columbia, on my recent visit, and name some of the best varieties of those especial pets of mine, coleus, geraniums and roses, of which I made notes on my visit to Shaw's Garden, and to some noted florists in the east, last year.

Cousin Charlie, Lexington, November 27.

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## The Dairy.

**Blue Grass Pastures and Dairying.**  
We have frequently referred to the great value of this grass for cows kept for their value in milk production. Mr. L. S. Hardin refers to the subject in the following not overwrought terms:

"This grass possesses a feature perhaps peculiar to itself, of a constant growth while the weather remains sufficiently temperate. Other grasses often die down as it is called about midsummer, and no amount of rain or manure can persuade them to start into life again; but they are supplanted by other grasses that start into life only late in the season, or what is objectionable is that weeds often take the place of these dead grasses. Blue grass, however, seems to possess such wonderful vitality that no amount of cutting or grazing seems to discourage it. On the contrary, it only grows the more thickly and luxuriantly by the constant cropping, just as many bushes by constant pruning become only the more dense in foliage. If not cropped closely, and especially if left to grow at will in a rich, warm soil, it will attain the height of four or five feet with a stock and head sufficiently large to make very fair hay, provided it is not dried too much when being cured. Unlike most grasses, it is most acceptable to stock, even under this rank growth, and therefore makes a most admirable feed for soiling purposes, especially when grown in fence corners or other places, as lawns and roadsides, where other crops can not be grown with weeds, if not put to some such useful purpose as the above. The winter method of treating blue grass pastures in southern States is as follows: in midsummer the pastures intended to be used in winter are selected, and from them all stock is kept, so that a tall heavy growth is secured by fall, when the weather will become too cold for further growth. The grass will be long and in drooping over, the tops becoming almost a perfect protection for the shorter grass beneath, so that when cattle are turned on to it they only have to root under the top grass to reach the green and succulent growth beneath. As this grass is eaten off it will not, of course, renew itself, as the weather is too cold. It is, therefore, necessary to provide several acres to the cow of this kind of pasture, if no other food is provided and the cows are expected to do much in the dairy line. The influence of these pastures on winter dairying is very noticeable and valuable, that is in giving a rich color and summer flavor to butter, which is so hard to secure in midwinter in the north. All that is hoped for through the troublesome and expensive method of ensilage at the north may thus be obtained at the south with no trouble at all, and indeed by merely leaving that which is well enough alone."

### Cost of a Pound of Butter.

A writer in the New York Tribune deems upon this query as follows:

"What dairyman can give a precise answer to this question? and if we should put it in this way, what ought a pound of butter to cost? we should present a poser not only to the dairyman, but to all the agricultural experiment stations now existing or in embryo. But these are very pertinent questions, because it is in the choice and use of the feed that profit or loss lies, and who can say which food and which method of feeding will produce the most favorable results? I have fed cows experimentally for years, and although I have made up my mind which foods and which methods are best for me, I could not say positively that one or the other would be best for another dairyman. The most costly food for a cow is hay and corn meal and wheat middlings. With hay at 1 cent a pound, and corn and middlings at 1 1/2 cents, it will cost to feed a cow 15 cents for hay, and 7 1/2 cents for meal per day—in all, 22 1/2 cents. A cow that will make 250 pounds of butter in a year will cost at least \$60. She will repay her own cost in calves and her carcass when twelve years old; so that to pay for her feed will cost \$81 yearly, if it is purchased, and if it is provided by the farm it comes to the same end, for the feed might be sold; and against this there is 35 pounds of butter, worth at the market price for the best quality, about \$50 net. Now, what should the butter cost? If the cow is at pasture for six months of the year, the pasture will be worth, at \$60 an acre for the land, and four acres to the cow, in interest alone, \$840; taxes will add at least \$2 more to that, and the cost of the grass will be at least \$2 an acre more; so that, with the winter feeding, the cost in all will be \$53 90, and the skimmed milk and manure may pay for the labor. Then, can a pound of butter be made for less than 25 cents? and if not the dairyman is not likely to be troubled about the high price of 4 per cent? But what of the dairyman whose cows will make but 160 pounds of butter in a year, and whose butter causes the nose of the commission man to turn upward? How do they live and how much do they earn per day?"

### Our Grandmothers

taught their daughters that "stitch in time saves nine." A pill in time saves not only nine, but oftentimes an inestimable amount of suffering as well. An occasional dosage of Dr. Piero's Pellets (Little Sugar coated Pills), to cleanse the stomach and bowels, not only prevents diseases but often breaks up sudden attacks, when taken in time. By druggists.

Warranted the greatest pain reliever in the world, Dr. Tobias' Venetian Liniment. Thirty-four years established, and never failed to cure cramp, spasms, colic, chronic rheumatism, old sores, and pain in the limbs, back and chest. Ladies will find this Liniment will immediately eradicate Pimples, Freckles and Blotches. Also restores Gray Hair to its natural color, and perfectly harmless. Sold by the druggists. 4-26-cow.

### A CARD.

**Unquestionably the Very Best.**  
BALTIMORE, Md., April 29, 1881.  
I have recently been using your Brown's Iron Bitters in my family, consisting of my self, wife and three children, and the effect has been always as marked as in the case of Mr. Phelps. It is unquestionably a wonderful medicine. A. J. BOWEN.

Carbolic Sheep Dip is the best. Address G. Millenckrodt & Co., St. Louis, send for circulars.

## The Poultry Yard.

### Poultry Diseases.

Fully nine-tenths of the diseases from which fowls suffer are simply and solely caused by vermin. Careful investigation has established this as a fact. The comb of a fowl may be considered its health indicator. The first intimation a close observer of fowls has, is the condition of their comb. Comparatively few birds in their natural wild state, die of disease. They have certain ways to keep themselves comparatively free from disease; fifty are not crowded in a space where only twenty-five should be; nature's (bird) laws are not transgressed, and they thrive in health. With domestic fowls it is different; they are crowded together, become lazy and get the cholera, roup, wanker and various so-so-things—none of which would they have if fowls were not preying on their bodies, unless it is roup, which is caused by several things.

To avoid many of these troubles watch your poultry, and the first time you see a hen moping around or refusing to eat, or one with feathers ruffled up, or comb looking dark blue at the end, pick her up and look for bugs. You will find them. Grease her well with an ointment made of lard and sulphur, under the wings and over the vent and on the head. Perhaps if you examine the roosts in the hen house, by taking them up and looking on the under side wherever the roosts rest on any thing, you will be astounded to find the numerous little red lice congregated there. These torment the fowls at night and return to their hiding places before the fowls leave their roosts. The roosts should be frequently washed on all sides with coal oil.—Toronto Globe.

### Poultry Notes.

A fowl raiser recommends tobacco smoke as a remedy for gapes in chickens. He puts the little biddies into a small box, covers it with a pane of glass, and blows in the smoke until they become very sick, repeating the process a second time if the first does not prove sufficient.

Six firms virtually control the poultry market in the south. Their combined capital is \$50,000. Their agents receive five per cent, for purchases, not only of poultry, but eggs, butter and sausages. The quarters are at New Orleans, Savannah, Charleston and three places in Tennessee.

Twenty hens properly fed, and with a fairly warm house, say 16 by 25, which is plenty large enough, will give a family of half a dozen all the eggs they require the year round, and furnish all the nice broiling, roasting chicks, &c., needed. This, too, need not cost nearly so much as it would to buy these things. Of course advantage must be taken of every scrap about the house to do this.

This is how the French kill their poultry: They open the beak of the fowl, and with a sharp-pointed, narrow-bladed knife make an incision at the back of the roof of the mouth which divides the vertebrae and causes instant death, after which the fowls are hung up by the legs. They will bleed perfectly, with no disfigurement; pickled while warm, and if desired scalded. In this way the skin presents a more natural appearance than when scalded.

The season has been a very unfavorable one for most farm products, but it has been most favorable for setting hens. A large proportion of eggs hatched. Geese and ducks have, in many places, suffered on account of a lack of water, but chickens and turkeys have done remarkably well, though many of the latter are in as poor flesh as the job attempted to fatten. Wild birds that build their nests on the ground have been very successful in raising young.

The following is a well-tested receipt for chicken cholera: At the first symptoms, dissolve in one gallon of the drinking water half a teaspoonful of alum and the same of coppers; at the same time give daily in the soft feed a little sharp sand at the rate of one teaspoonful to a fowl. In severe cases give once by hand a piece of alum and a piece of copper, each the size of a pea, mixed in dough, with one teaspoonful of sand and a little meal and water. Continue the medicated water and sanded feed until all signs of disease disappear.

An experienced chicken raiser cures his chickens of the gapes in the following manner: As soon as a manifestation of gapes in his fowls appears he confines his chickens in a box, one at a time, sufficiently large enough to contain the bird, and places a coarse piece of cotton or linen cloth over the top. Upon this he places the pulverized lime and tars the screen sufficiently to cause the lime to fall through. This lime dust the fowl inhalations and is made to sneeze, and in a short time the cause of the gapes is thrown out in the form of a slimy mass or masses of worms which had accumulated in the windpipe and smaller air vessels. This remedy he considers superior to any he ever tried, and he seldom fails to effect a perfect cure. He has abjured all these mechanical means by which it is attempted to dislodge the entozoa with instruments made of whalebone, hogs bristles, horse hair or fine wire, alleging that people are quite as certain to push the gape worms further down the throat of the fowl as to draw them up.

### A Special Correspondent.

The well-known author Mrs. A. H. Leonards has been sent to Russia by the Youth's Companion, and will soon contribute a series of articles on "Life in the Out-of-the-way Nooks and Corners of Russia."

The Louisville Commercial cites the case of Capt. Chas. N. Corri, of that city, who was cured by St. Jacobs Oil, after suffering for years with rheumatism.—York (Neb.) Republican.

**A CARD.**  
To all who are suffering from the errors and indiscretions of youth, nervous weakness, early decay, loss of manhood, &c., I will send a recipe that will cure you, FREE OF CHARGE. This great remedy was discovered by a missionary in South America. Send a self-addressed envelope to the REV. JOSEPH F. INMAN, Station D, New York City. 44-26-cow.

**Piles. Piles.**  
Drs. Wortman & Co., 906 Pine street, St. Louis, Mo., positively cure piles without knife or pain. Not a dollar unless cured. Send for circulars.

## The Fish Pond.

### Tame Bass.

Pond-bass make very intelligent pets, I once had three hundred of these little fellows, perfectly tame. Down in the corner of the corn-field I found two patent washing-machines, the beds of which were shaped like scow-boats. These old machines were fast going to ruin, and I readily gained permission to use them for whatever purpose I wished; so, with a hatchet, I knocked off the legs and top-gear; then removed a side from each box, and fastened the two together, making a tank about four feet square. The seam, or crack, where the two parts joined, was filled with oakum, and the whole outside was thickly daubed with tar. The tank was then set in a hole dug for that purpose and the dirt was filled in and packed about the sides. Back of it I piled rocks and planted ferns in all the cracks and crannies. I also put rocks in the center of the tank, first covering the bottom with sand and gravel. After filling this with water and plants, I put in three hundred little bass, and they soon became so tame that they would follow my finger all around, or would jump out of the water for a bit of meat held between the fingers. Almost any wild creatures will yield to persistent kind treatment, and become tame. Generally, too, they learn to have a sort of trustful affection for their keepers, who, however, to earn the confidence of such friends, should be almost as wise, punctual, and unfailing as good Dame Nature herself.—St. Nicholas.

For diseases of the nerves, brain, blood and lungs, a superior medicine to all others is Brown's Iron Bitters.

The germ of true wealth, merit, and capability will eventually germinate and produce its natural fruitage, though its owner may feel impatient of delay. It is easier to control the thunderbolt than a circumscript mental power.

For weak lungs, spitting of blood, weak stomach, night sweats, and the early stages of Consumption, "Golden Medical Discovery" is specific. By druggists.

He is a more noble warrior who subdues himself than he who, in battle, conquers thousands.—Buddha.

### Breeders' Directory

For the convenience of many breeders who do not wish to insert large advertisements, we will insert cards in this column at reasonable rates which will be given on application.

**H. V. P. Block**, Aberdeen, Pike county, Mo., breeds and has for sale pure and highly-bred Flanders, stags and does, and imported Napoleons, Boerboels, champion Alpine trotters, pure Jersey, Shorthorn cattle and Berkshires pigs. Send for catalogues. 30-31

**K. H. ALLEN**, Breeder of Thoroughbreds—Short-horn cattle, Cotswold sheep, Berkshire hogs, Bronze turkeys and Light Brahmas fowls. Alendale Stock Farm. O'Fallon, St. Charles county, Mo.

**H. H. RUSSELL**, Fayetteville, Johnson county, Ky., breeds of Poland-China swine. Prices reasonable. Correspondence solicited. 31-32

**S. M. JE WETT**, Independence, Mo., importer and breeder of registered American Merino sheep. Satisfaction guaranteed to purchasers. 32-33

**COTSWOLDS**.—Glenwater Flocks. I breed and have for sale at all times, pure Cotswold Sheep. Address for prices, etc. J. MONROE LEER, Paris, Bourbon county, Ky. 32-33

**A. J. DORSEY FERRY**, Pike Co., Ill.

Breeders of prize-winning Poland-China, Berkshire and Chester White swine, and Mornay hogs. Chasered in Illinois State and St. Louis Fair. Breeders recorded. Stock for sale. Write to what you want. Mention this paper 34-35

**THE PEOPLE HAVE PROCLAIMED THE CLYDESDALE THE KING OF DRAFT HORSES.**

**W. H. POWELL BROS.**, Springfield, Mass., importers and breeders of Clydesdale, the best breed of draft horses in the world. The largest and finest collection ever seen.

**THE SOLARGRAPH WATCH ONLY \$1.**

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## COLMAN'S RURAL WORLD.

## FARM TOPICS.

The stock of corn now in Chicago is the largest ever known. It is not far from 100,000 bushels, and possibly exceeds that figure.

In spite of drouth and chinch bugs, Kansas, according to the latest reliable estimates, will have this season about 100,000,000 bushels of corn.

A Londoner by the name of Rhodes, lately found in Africa a diamond of surprising size and brilliancy, for which he has refused £100,000. The stone weighs 150 carats, and Mr. Rhodes says he must have for it £300,000 or nothing.

G. G. McHattie, Ag't, Fulton, Mo., offers sole Berkshire boar, Lord Liverpool Jr., 2801, winner of first and sweepstakes premiums; Berkshire boar, Crown Prince, show animal; Berkshire boar, Dundreary Jr., very fine; the celebrated Cotswold buck, Captain Jack and 30 Cotswold ewes bred to him.

The latest reports from the recent forest and farm fires in Michigan, state that 1,500 square miles of territory were swept over; 15,000 people have been made homeless, and more than 200 persons met an awful death. It is estimated that \$1,000,000 is immediately needed to keep the survivors from perishing.

The United States will manufacture more cotton goods this year than ever before. The commercial reports show that the southern mills have taken 45,000 bales so far, against 35,000 last year, an increase of 29 per cent, while the northern mills have increased their consumption from 291,914 to 364,489 bales—an increase of 15 per cent.

Mr. Edward Richardson, of Mississippi, is the largest cotton raiser in the world, the Kedive of Egypt coming second. He owns some 62,000 acres of cotton land, from which he raised last year more than 12,000 bales. He gins, spins and weaves it, and has oil mills as well. Mr. Richardson has amassed a fortune variously estimated at from \$15,000,000.

The oil cakes and brans are the foods rich in phosphoric acid; straw and meadow hay are the foods poorest in this constituent. Lime is most abundant in clover hay, bean straw and turnips, and occurs in least quantity in the cereal grains and in potatoes. Potash is abundant in roots, hay, bean straw, bran and oil cake, and is found in smallest quantity in the cereal grains.

In Georgia there were before the war 62,000 landed proprietors, now there are more than twice that number. In several other states, notably those best adapted to agriculture, nearly the same ratio of increase is noted. Plantations of thousands of acres are being divided and sold to make farms of moderate size, and the tiller of the soil is fast becoming the owner of the land.

Jute is probably to be one of the leading crops in the southern states. Its fibre is used in making gunny sacks, bagging, and other coarse articles, and the imported article is used in many finer textile fabrics. The plant grows well in Louisiana. The seed came from India where it is a leading crop. Many million pounds of the fibre are shipped into the United States every year.

The school fund of Texas, if judiciously managed, will in the near future become the wonder of the world. The land set aside for this fund the interest of common schools, will probably bring \$100,000,000, in addition to that already sold, which will aggregate a greater sum than all the states combined. Beside the \$500,000 of the State University fund for building, it has a fund of three millions of dollars for educational purposes.

Potato flour, or the dried pulp of the potato, is attaining great importance to the arts. It is stated that in Lancashire, England, twenty thousand tons of it are sold annually, and it brings at present in Liverpool about double as much in the market as wheat flour. It is used for sizing and other manufacturing purposes, and when precipitated with acid is turned into starch. When calcined it is employed as a dressing for silk.

The estimated falling off in the aggregate value of the crops of the country this year over last is not less than \$500,000,000. This is equivalent to a loss of more than \$10 to each man, woman and child in the Union. Among the greatest sufferers by the loss will be the stockholders in the through lines of railroad, whose dividends depend largely upon the freights on grain carried to the seaboard. The carrying trade will be greatly reduced over that of other years.

There will probably be no better time than now in which to clear the garden of old bean poles, boards, and brush, and get it ready for the plow next spring; and all the summer accumulation of twigs and sticks and splinters about buildings may be profitably gathered for kindling wood during the winter. If you keep hens (as of course you do) provide a comfortable and clean place for them to roost in, and see to it that they have a load of sand or sods to work upon while the ground is covered.

Prof. Ingerson, of Purdue University, after experimenting with lucerne or alfalfa on the college farm, gives it as his opinion that it is a valuable plant for all hilly lands where grass makes a feeble growth, and is frequently burned out by drouth. He sums up its valuable points as follows: 1st, its manner and quickness of growth; 2d, capacity to endure drouth; 3d, hardiness in winter; and 4th, that it adds one more to the valuable list of our forage plants, and thus enlarges the range of our production.

The Indiana Farmer says of a patch of pearl millet: "During all the long drouth it retained its fresh green color, although corn planted alongside of it dried up entirely. Considering its immense productiveness and its ability to withstand dry weather, we regard it as a most desirable acquisition, and one that farmers ought to cultivate at least to the extent of an acre or two, for the use of their milch cows when pasture grows scarce in the fall. It requires good land and some cultivation to give the best results."

An agricultural writer says that skim milk really the life-sustaining and most valuable part of the milk, will not always be wasted as it is at present. It will be utilized as human food and acquire an increased value, and this, while it will enhance the income of the producer, can not fail to have a bearing on other dairy products. Considerable advances have already been made in this direction. The enormous waste of deadstock food through this channel is becoming appreciated, and will not long be tolerated. Some way will be devised to turn it to better account.

Cotton, corn, tea and hay are the leading crops of earth, and it appears from statistics recently published that hay leads all the rest. Cotton and tea are local crops, but hay is produced everywhere that plants grow. All farm crops in the United States in 1870, were valued at \$2,477,558,657. The hay alone, 27,000,000 tons, at an average price was worth \$405,000,000, more than all the cotton was worth. And this does not include the grass used on the ground, not even as hay at all. It is estimated that the net value of the grass crop utilized that year was at least two fifths of the total value of all the crops. Hence, grass is king.

The best home paper and the best agricultural paper, both to one address, three months on trial for 40 cents. The Monthly Common School Visitor and Colman's Rural World, three months for 40 cents, or the Visitor alone 15 cents. Address, Visitor, Box 5, Kirkville, Mo.

Put the bones in a compost heap, first a layer of horse manure a foot deep, then a layer of bones six inches thick, another of manure, and so on. If at any time there is a strong smell of ammonia from the heap, scatter over it a few inches of fine earth. Do not stir the compost. In six months the largest bones will have been disintegrated so as to crumble between the thumb and finger. Then mix the whole pile together, and a rich fertilizer will result. The same thing may be accomplished in less time by first breaking the bones with an iron maul. Farmers' Review.

Provide a cask water-tight, kill your beef and pack all the meat portions, keeping out the largest bones. When the cask is full pour over it a mixture prepared as follows: Put into boiling water as much good rock salt as will dissolve, or if not rock salt, any good coarse salt, then add for each 2 quarters of beef, one quart molasses, two pounds sugar, and two ounces saltpetre. This will preserve the beef in a state of purity, and if soaked a few hours before cooking, it is difficult to distinguish it from the best fresh beef. Just before the weather gets warm in the spring, when beef there is left in the barrel must be taken out and dried with smoke as quickly as possible.

The potato starch market is affected by the high price of potatoes. The production of potato starch for the whole country last year was 9,500 tons. The amount carried over from the previous year was 1,400 tons, making 11,000 tons with which to begin the new year. During the year 9,000 tons were consumed, leaving 2,000 tons to add to this year's production. The manufacture of potato starch this year amounts to 4,000 tons, and with 2,000 tons left over from last year, makes 6,000 tons for this year's supply, which is 3,000 tons short of last year's consumption. Starch makers in Maine are hindered by the high price and scarcity of potatoes, of which it is estimated a bushel will yield nine pounds of starch.

The influx of emigrants to this country continues unabated. The American and Red Star lines have brought to Philadelphia within the past eight months over 30,000 of them, of whom about 8,000 were German and Belgians, 5,000 Scandinavians, 4,000 Poles, Russians and Hungarians, 3,500 English and Scotch, 4,000 Irish, and 2,500 French, Italians and Swiss. The arrivals have steadily increased from 500 during February to about 6,000 during July. Nearly 400,000 emigrants arrived at New York during the same period, 10,000 at Boston, and almost as many at Halifax, Quebec and Montreal. The British government offers great inducements to emigrants to settle in the Dominion, but many who arrive there afterwards cross the border into the United States.

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